25 finish 8th Cycle Corrections Academy. PAGE 7
Team NMI wins award at mock trial nationals. PAGE 8

Hafa Adai!

# Saipan Tribune

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# Possible snag in CW bill

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

A U.S. House committee has brought up a possible issue on the foreign worker bill that might delay its passage in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said Tuesday the U.S. House Ways and Means Committee has raised an issue on a "small piece" of U.S. Sen. Lisa Murkowski's (R-AK) S.2325, or the Northern Marianas Islands U.S. Workforce Act, due to the "potential revenue

See BILL on Page 4

## IPI's CWs opt to leave

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Unsettled about their future labor and immigration status, many of the foreign workers of Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC chose not to renew their contracts and opted to leave the CNMI, according to a senior company official.

Speaking at last week's Commonwealth Casino Commission meeting, IPI human relations vice president Bertha Leon Guerrero said it was

See IPI on Page 4

**FLOOD ADVISORY**
Two young tourists avoid the flooded side of the road as they walk along Beach Road corner Taibwo Street in Garapan yesterday afternoon. The CNMI Emergency Operations Center-State Warning Point issued an Urban and Small Stream Flood Advisory for Saipan yesterday after information received from the National Weather Service in Guam indicated continuous heavy rain and thunderstorms, with areas of standing water. It warned of minor flooding in low-lying and poor drainage areas.
FERDIE DE LA TORRE

## Int'l tour firm sets sights on NMI

A major international tourism firm has set its sights on the growing CNMI tourism marketplace.

Beijing-based UTour Group Company, Ltd. recently announced its decision to begin its investments into the CNMI.

UTour, listed on China's Shenzhen Stock Exchange, has been engaged in the outbound tourism business for over two decades.

Led by chairman Feng Bin, the firm is engaged in outbound travel,

See TOUR on Page 4

Propst

## Propst, 5 others eye suit vs salary hike

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan) and company are looking at filing a lawsuit against the CNMI government over the proposed 80-percent salary increase for elected officials.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday, Propst said he is looking for lawyers who are willing to "take up a taxpayer lawsuit" against the CNMI government to ensure the 80-percent salary increase isn't

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The Marianas Visitors Authority reaches out to diving enthusiasts throughout Europe.
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South Korea said Thursday it's pushing to reset high-level talks with North Korea.
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**LIFE & STYLE**
The foul-mouthed mercenary in Deadpool is back with a sequel.
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# Local

# Lightning causes islandwide outage

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

A lightning that hit the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s power plant in Lower Base yesterday morning plunged the entire island of Saipan into a power blackout.

The incident, according to a CUC statement, happened at 9:02am due to an early morning thunderstorm.

CUC said that Power Plant 1 was struck by lightning that affected the power distribution in Feeders 2 and Feeder 3's primary overhead power distribution system, causing Feeder 3's breaker to explode.

No person was injured in the incident.

Power restoration started with Feeder 1, which includes the Commonwealth Health Center, the island's lone hospital.

"[CHC's] generators kicked in immediately [once the power went out], so no interruption of services. …The hospital is being prioritized," Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. public information officer Samantha Birmingham-Babauta told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

As of 12pm yesterday, CUC has restored the power in several areas.

The power outage also affected water services.

CUC said water services would normalize beginning at 6am today as their water tanks need to be refilled to a certain level.

## Other advisories

The CNMI Public School System also issued an early dismissal before noon yesterday due to the power outage.

"Due to the islandwide power outage, the CNMI [PSS] will be releasing students at 11:30am. Parents are requested to pick up their children between 11:30am to 12nn. Buses will be available to all bus riders," said PSS.

The Department of Fire and Emergency Services released a flood statement based on information provided by the National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam after several areas on Saipan experienced flooding.

"At 12:33pm, public reports indicated continuous heavy rain and thunderstorms across Saipan with areas of standing water. This will cause urban and small stream flooding. One to two inches of rain have already fallen in recent hours," added the statement that was compiled at the CNMI Emergency Operations Center-State Warning Point.

For more information, call CUC's Customer Call Center at 6644282 or the CUC Hotline at 2364333, or call the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at 2378000 or 6648000.

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# Summer slushies now available at McDonald's

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan's summer can get unbearably hot but McDonald's got you covered with their new Minute Made slushies, specifically made to help beat the summer heat.

McDonald's officially launched yesterday their Minute Made slushies that pack a punch of flavor that's easy on any budget.

The Minute Made slushies are not your traditional slushies. Instead of the common shaved ice drizzled with syrup, McDonald's blends their ice with the syrup for a blast of flavor with every sip.

At less than $3 apiece, the Minute Made slushies come in three summer flavors—Blue Raspberry, Cherry Limeade, and Tropic Twist in three different sizes.

Mable Ayuyu, executive assistant to McDonald's president Saipan/Guam, was excited to talk about the new addition to their menu.

"Today, we're launching the slushies. We're excited because it comes right in time for summer and the great thing is that it is affordable," she said. "It's something new, it's something different…we're bringing back a familiar thing because everyone knows slushies."

McDonald's will only serve their slushies until September or while supplies last, so get yours today.

ADVERTISING Feature

try Slushies

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# NMC conferees up by 49

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College will be conferring a total of 257 associate and bachelor degrees in tomorrow's 38th Commencement Exercise starting at 4pm at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

The number is an increase of 49 students compared to last year's graduation that had 208.

Dr. Catherine "Kit" Porter Van Meter, NMC's first president, will be this year's keynote speaker.

NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez told *Saipan Tribune* that Van Meter "has played a formative role in the growth of [NMC] and we are sure that her message will inspire our graduates."

Out of the 10 associate degrees to be conferred, 47 are from Liberal Arts, while LA-Education and Criminal Justice have 26 and 22 each. Business Administration with emphasis on Accounting has 20 while 18 are coming from Business Management.

Hospitality Management and Natural Resources Management will each have 16, while AA's in Business Administration with emphasis on Computer Application and Business have 11 and 10 apiece.

A total of 30 students will be receiving their Business Management degrees while BSBM with concentration in Accounting and BS in Elementary Education has eight each. BSEd in Rehabilitation and Human Services will have five graduates while three will be coming from Early Childhood.

"The record number of degrees being conferred speaks to the ever-increasing number of residents who are turning to NMC for their professional and personal growth," said Fernandez.

"Many of our graduates will be entering the workforce filling key positions and contributing to the local economy, while others will be furthering their studies and pursuing advanced degrees," she added.

**ACCIDENT SCENE**
Law enforcement officers tend to the aftermath of a collision yesterday afternoon at the Quartermaster Road. ERWIN ENCINARES

## TOUR

*From Page 1*

educational tourism, immigration services, health care, tourism finance, insurance, and other exit service.

Following his initial visit to the CNMI in August of 2017, Bin has pivoted the firm's investments to include tourism-related investments in the CNMI.

"I am amazed at the natural beauty of the islands and despite the number of visitors that have visited the Commonwealth over the past three decades, the natural environment remains comparatively healthy and intact compared to other tropical destinations. I believe that investments into a destination like Saipan and the rest of the CNMI will position our firm for the growth that our shareholders are looking for," said Feng.

To ensure that the firm is able to make smart investments in the CNMI, UTour Group Co., Ltd. has partnered with the CNMI-based Top Development, Inc.

TDI has operated in Saipan for nearly 25 years and was instrumental in the development of the China-based charter flight market segment. In 2002, TDI set out to capture untapped Chinese source markets and has developed its sales networks across a variety of source cities to include Beijing, Shanghai, Hangzhou, and Guangzhou. Most recently, TDI partnered with agents to launch the Hangzhou-Saipan charter flights operated by Beijing Capital Airlines, providing 500 flight seats weekly to the CNMI.

The two firms have partnered to create UTop Investment Group, Inc. The firm has announced a 10-year strategic plan centered on four major elements within the tourism marketplace. With a strong international presence and CNMI based network and infrastructure offering air-service, ground transportation, tour packages and a host of other peripheral services and products, UTop has made it clear that they want to be part of the CNMI's success story.

"Our team is [composed] of professionals with local knowledge, as well as those who are well-versed in the international marketing and tourism industries. Led by our project director, Mr. Stonic Chu, the firm has already begun making strategic investments into properties throughout the island. We anticipated helping the CNMI that our investments will position the CNMI to accommodate and support the continued growth trend in the tourism industry. Despite some pitfalls with U.S.-based air service, we are confident that our entry into the CNMI marketplace will serve to support the CNMI's continued upward trends," said Feng. ***(PR)***

## PROPST

*From Page 1*

implemented.

"I seek a legal solution to this so that we can finally, once and for all, dispose of the salary increase and allow for us to focus on other greater priorities," Propst told *Saipan Tribune*.

The salary hike is mandated by Public Law 19-83.

He said there are five others who support a lawsuit, but he declined to identify them.

Propst said his biggest concern with the salary increase was how uncertain the future is.

"Once the salary increases go through, it would be constitutionally protected and they can't change it. It is $1.2 million additional burden for taxpayers," said Propst. "It seems like a small amount in a strong economy, but what if [the economy] collapses?"

Propst also proposes a part-time legislature, as other states in the U.S. mainland have.

According to Propst, part-time legislatures meet about 60-100 times a year.

For the 19th Legislature, the House met in official session only 49 times, which he said averages about one official session every two weeks minus the committee meetings.

"We can still do that in a part-time basis…If we officially become a part-time legislature, it would open up the doors to so many people in the community who would not have to let go of their day jobs to serve," he said.

"…We come and go as we please in the Legislature. We can work [for an hour] to a hundred hours in a week. It is completely up to us. Given that we are not required by law to put in so many hours, all the more reason for us to move toward a part-time legislature," he added.

## BILL

*From Page 1*

generating measures" of the bill relating to the additional fees and charges added to the program. That concern could result in the bill being referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

"A referral to the [committee] could mean delays for the bill's passage," said Torres in a statement, adding that he has emphasized with the U.S. House leaders that the urgency for the bill's passage just went up when the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. has had only one of its nurses' CW petitions approved. That nurse works at the Rota Health Center.

"At this point, I have been informed that another alternative is possible but would entail additional delays in approval," said Torres, adding that the House has informed him that another bill could be "considered by the House" and amended to include all of the U.S. Senate-passed language.

"Unfortunately, doing this would mean the [U.S.] Senate would have to vote again on the measure before sending [it] to U.S. President Donald J. Trump for his signature. This alternative would mean a delay of weeks," said Torres.

Torres is urging Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) speak with his colleagues in the U.S. House to "hasten the approval of S.2325" and provide "security for the businesses, organizations, and people who are relying on this bill" as fiscal year 2019 approaches.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services earlier said it would use a lottery system in order to choose which CW-1 petitions would be approved since they received more applications than the 4,999 limit they set for next fiscal year.

Sablan describes the cuts as "unnecessary and harmful" to the CNMI, especially with the improving economy.

## IPI

*From Page 1*

hard for their CW1 employees to plan their future on Saipan.

"A lot of them are thinking, 'I don't know if I'm going to be approved. It's hard to make a future for them," she added.

Leon Guerrero said that most of their foreign workers chose not to renew their contracts due to the uncertainty of their employment status in the Commonwealth.

IPI, like other businesses in the CNMI, is expected to be affected by the CW1 lottery of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, with just 4,999 foreign worker slots available in fiscal year 2019. The number of worker petitions received by USCIS for next fiscal year totaled more than 4,999 and the agency went ahead with the lottery on which petitions would be approved and processed.

IPI, as of April this year, had 1,468 active employees, 44 percent of which are U.S. citizens while 56 percent are non-U.S. citizens.

Leon Guerrero told the casino commission that most of the "separations" that was listed on their report to the CCC are employees under the CW1 program.

"It's hard for them to plan their future when every year they are not sure if they are going to get renewed or do not know what's going to happen. A lot of them were just exhausted from that uncertainty," she said. "Quite a few of them have already left."

"For the ones that have resigned willingly, majority of their concerns is just the uncertainty of the CW1 program," said Leon Guerrero, who added that most of those who resigned go to other new casinos, like in the Philippines.

### Exerting all efforts

Leon Guerrero said they continue to exert all efforts in hiring locally. In fact, she said, they recently participated in the career fair organized by the Northern Marianas College. "We participated in the NMC Career Fair just to recruit, to inform the local talents that there are opportunities here. We're trying to get some interest in the internship program. These are some of the ways that we get the word out and let them know."

She added that there were three NMC students to whom they offered jobs but only one accepted as a part-time employee, while the other two declined.

"It's really not that easy. And they were in food and beverage and finance. Still they were offered job opportunities. We're trying and we agree that we should encourage our young to consider the gaming industry," said Leon Guerrero.

Still, she added, IPI will continue with their operations even if they have fewer workers. "If we don't have enough staffing and if we can't open 10 tables, then we only open seven. It's a lot of trying to make sure that we continue our operations based on what we have."

A total of 170 of their current employees recently took part in anti-money laundering and advanced Excel trainings to improve their skills. A lot have also undergone annual recertifications.

# Bill requiring multiple Zoning hearings shelved

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

A House committee voted last Tuesday to file—or essentially shelve—a bill that would require the Zoning board to hold at least three public hearings for rezoning requests.

The House Judicial and Governmental Operations Committee led by chair Rep. Ivan A. Blanco (R-Saipan) voted to kill Rep. Vinson Sablan's (Ind-Saipan) House Bill 20-06, which mandates three public hearings to be held for proposed rezoning district boundary changes.

Blanco

Current law states that Zoning may only conduct one public hearing before recommending to the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation to pass a law in order to rezone a specific lot.

"Members feel that 30 days was enough and [the committee] voted 3-2," Blanco explained. He added that prior to holding a Zoning public hearing, a 30-day notice is first released. He also added that if the delegation believes the public hearing yielded insufficient information, the delegation may also conduct public hearings on the same issue.

"If somebody missed that public hearing that Zoning [conducted], they could come up here and [voice their concerns]," Blanco said.

In an email response on the filing of his bill, Sablan said the intention of the bill was to have the community more involved with the rezoning process.

"With the rise in economic development, we are noticing more requests for rezoning on both private and public land. I introduced H.B. 20-06 to give our community members and residents more chances to weigh in on rezoning requests and to simply take part in the process," Sablan said in an email.

"H.B. 20-06 does not oppose rezoning proposals but was aimed to ensure that we who make the decisions hear the voice of the community, especially those that are directly affected by certain proposals," he clarified, adding that his bill could have been amended to at least two required public hearings to give the public "at least one more chance to attend any hearings."

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**COMMERCE HONOREES** CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Frank Cabrera of the Worker's Compensation Commission is honored for his 29 years of service with the government during the 2018 Public Service Recognition Award Presentation on May 16 at the Department of Commerce on Capital Hill. Others in the photo are Commerce Secretary Mark O. Rabauliman, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, and Office of Personnel Management director Isidro K. Seman.

Justin Andrew of the Division of Central Statistic Division is presented with the Leadership award and is honored for his 17 years of government service. during the 2018 Public Service Recognition Award Presentation on May 16 at the Department of Commerce on Capital Hill. Others in the photo are Commerce Secretary Mark O. Rabauliman, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, and Office of Personnel Management director Isidro K. Seman. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Jesse Chong of the Division of Enforcement & Compliance is presented with the Employee of the Year award and is honored for his 22 years of service with the government during the 2018 Public Service Recognition Award Presentation on May 16 at the Department of Commerce on Capital Hill. Others in the photo are Commerce Secretary Mark O. Rabauliman, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, and Office of Personnel Management director Isidro K. Seman. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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# Free health screening on Sunday

To increase awareness about maintaining good health and to promote education on disease prevention, there will be a free health screening on Sunday, May 20, at thr San Antonio Parish Social Hall in San Antonio.

The health screening is being organized by the U.S. Pinoys for Good Governance Marianas chapter, National Youth Movement for the West Philippine Sea Marianas chapter, Bayan Bago Sarili (BAYANi), National Federation of Filipino American Associations, and Asian Community of the CNMI.

It will be spearheaded by sponsored by Dr. Celia Lamkin and Ronald Lamkin.

Registration starts at 7:30am.

There will be free blood pressure measurements, blood sugar tests, weight and height determination, and body mass index measurements.

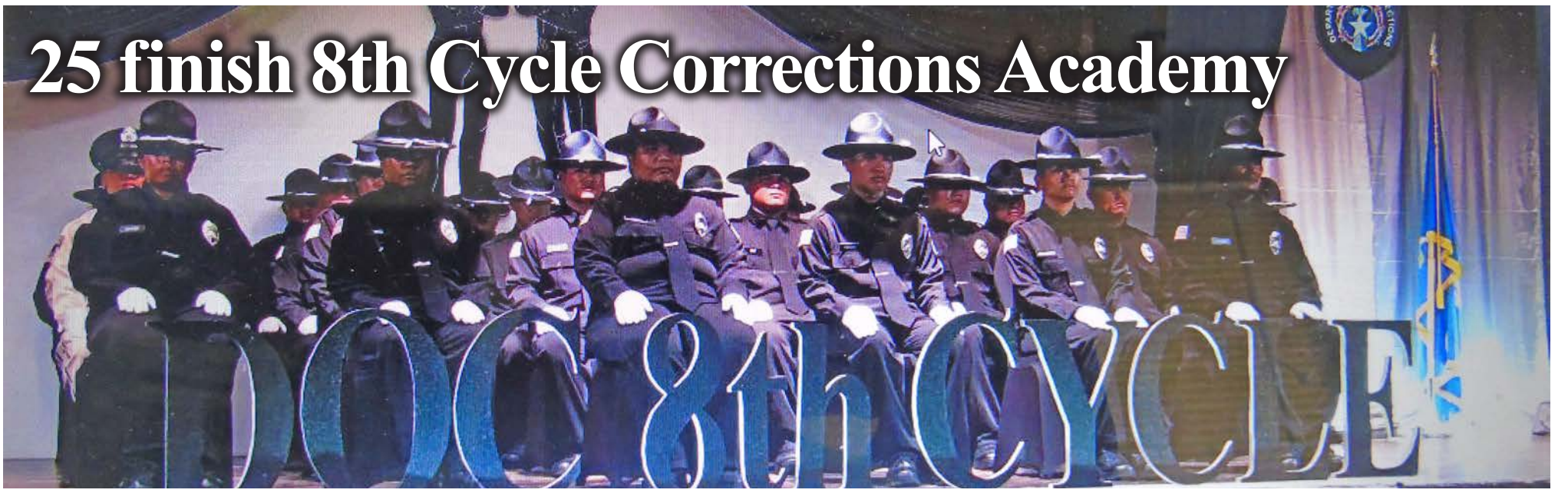
People who would like to avail of the blood sugar level tests are advised to fast—refrain from eating and drinking liquids preferably 12 hours or two hours prior to the actual testing.

Knowing where your health stands help you start realistic personal health goals for the rest of this year and thereafter. Free health screening events help members of our community take charge of their health, said Lamkin.

Information on disease prevention such as hypertension, high cholesterol, high triglycerides, obesity, diabetes, among others, will be distributed at the health screening site.

The public is invited regardless of ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, nationality, status, and citizenship. ***(PR)***

# 25 finish 8th Cycle Corrections Academy




The 25 members of the 8th Cycle Corrections Academy during their graduation at the Fiesta Resort & Spa's Hibiscus Hall Wednesday afternoon. DOC

Twenty-five cadets graduated from the 8th Cycle Corrections Academy during a ceremony held at the Fiesta Resort & Spa's Hibiscus Hall Wednesday afternoon.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Department of Corrections Commissioner Vincent S. Attao presented the graduates with certificates and awards.

**» Police cadet Daniel Kaipat is class valedictorian, Larry Sebaklim is class salutatorian**

Daniel Kirby Kaipat, 24, a graduate of Kagman High School, emerged as class valedictorian. He and Mark John Cruzat joined the academy as police cadets.

Larry Jay D. Sebaklim came out as the class salutatorian.

Alfonso L. Taitano was awarded most physically fit, Kristy P. Leon Guerrero received the most physically improved award, and Derek Chen was named the top gun.

Ryned E. Marcil received the unsung hero award, class commander Dreana T. Rabauliman got the governor's leadership award, and Frankie A. Ramangmou Jr. was given the Vicente T. Seman award.

The graduates underwent five and a half months of training.

The other new Corrections officers are Ludale Atinisom Camacho, Millicent Taitano Odoshi, Kayona Indalecio Takami, Daniel Luzama Cruz, Mario Rios Cudiamat, Marlon Concepcion Marquez, Brendon Atalig Manglona, Pius Rios Yaroitemal Jr., Patrick Ingereklii Dowai Jr., Julian Ezra Igisaiar Jr., Eddie Francisco Demei, Nick Kanha Wally, Alvin Joshua Mikel Nepaial, Keola Joseph Somorang Nekaifes, Rainier Relado Deleon Guerrero, and Richard Castro Norita.

Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio swore in the new Corrections officers.

At present, DOC has 92 seasoned officers, including the commissioner and nine civilian employees. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

I
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# Team NMI's Mock Trial Knights wins award at nationals

"Kind, generous, and genuine."

These were just some of the words used by judges and competitors to describe Mount Carmel School's Mock Trial Knights as they represented the Northern Marianas at the 2018 National High School Mock Trial Championship in Reno, Nevada.

In praising the team, the national organization presented the team with the Larry Bakko Award for Professionalism and Civility, the only team award presented at the competition other than the championship title.

"We bring home this award on behalf of the entire Northern Marianas, proud of the island hospitality we shared with all competitors at this prestigious competition," said lead coach and Mount Carmel School president Galvin Deleon Guerrero. "This award represents who we are as a school and as a Commonwealth."

The Larry Bakko award was created by the National High School Mock Trial Championship to highlight the importance of professionalism, civility, integrity, and fair play, both inside and outside the courtroom. The award is nominated by and voted on by all teams at the end of the competition.

The award is named after Larry Bakko, a pioneer in mock trial who developed the program's current scoring system and contributed to the continuing success of the program. As the national organization put it, "[Bakko] strove to perfect his scoring system, he worried about judging panels, he stressed over the capacity of the courtrooms for the size of the spectator groups, he provided statistical analysis and frequently responded to many questions and challenges about the power-matching system."

The official 2018 National High School Mock Trial Championship team photo of Mount Carmel School's Mock Trial Knights, who represented the Northern Marianas at the national competition.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Team NMI's Mock Trial Knights gather for a quick photo after receiving the Larry Bakko Award for Professionalism and Civility at the 2018 National High School Mock Trial Championship in Reno, Nevada.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The organization added, "It was Larry's tenacity and love for the program that kept him coming back year after year."

Bakko passed away in 2013 after a battle with cancer.

In addition to winning the Larry Bakko Award, the Mock Trial Knights fared well in four contentious rounds. In all four rounds, the team faced states who had previously won the national competition, including Nebraska (1985 and 2015 national champions), Georgia (1995, 1999, 2007, 2008 national champions), South Carolina (1989 and 2004 national champions), and Wisconsin (1989 national champions). All four teams have also regularly placed in the top 10 since the start of the national competition in 1984.

After all the rounds, the Mock Trial Knights won four ballots with a score of 1000, and ranked 34th in the nation, besting a dozen other teams, including mock trial powerhouses like Indiana (2009 and 2011 national champions), Hawaii (2005 second place), and South Carolina.

The team's performance was especially impressive considering how many newcomers were on the team. Of the nine Knights that had official roles in the national competition, only three had ever competed at the national level. Moreover, the competition was a first for attorneys Justin Ocampo, Angelo Manese, and Reica Ramirez, who had never competed as attorneys either at the local or the national level prior to this year.

When asked about what it was like to compete at such a high level, Ocampo said, "At first it was nerve-wracking. But, as I settled into the role more, I realize how much fun it was to apply my knowledge of the rules with my own style and presence to verbally spar with these really smart people." He added, "And as hard as it was, I was proud that we held our own against such great teams."

The team expressed its appreciation to everyone that supported it along the way, including its attorney coach Garth Backe, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, Vince Torres, the CNMI Public School System, Tim Thornburgh, Dencio Manglona, the CNMI Judiciary, the CNMI Bar Association, CNMI Mock Trial Coordinator Deanna Manglona-Ogo, Eulalia Villagomez-Arriola from the CNMI Bar Association, and Divana Dela Cruz from the CNMI Judiciary. ***(PR)***

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## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### CNMI meeting of non-government groups

The Marianas Alliance for Non-Governmental Organizations is calling on all non-government organization leaders to come to a meeting with the Pacific Islands Association for Non-Governmental Organizations on May 18, 2018, from 3:30pm to 6:30pm, at the WestCare Pacific CNMI office, Springs Plaza, Gualo Rai, Saipan. PIANGO gives a voice in policy formulation and contributes to the development and strengthening the capacity of the civil society sector in the Pacific for more than 27 years. The PIANGO network represents National Liaison Units that serve as national CSO platforms in 27 member countries and territories. By focusing on the theme "Rethinking Development and Reshaping the Pacific We Want By 2030," PIANGO is currently working on the following priority areas: strengthening CSO platforms in the Pacific, development effectiveness, evidence-based policy advocacy and Pacific development leadership and decolonization and self determination. To learn more about PIANGO and its members, visit www.piango.org or contact Frances Sablan at 287-9274 or frances.sablan@westcare.com, or Akmal Ali at 286-3391 or akmal@piango.org. ***(PR)***

### NMC graduation will stream live

Family and friends who are off-island or who are not able to attend the Northern Marianas College's 38th Commencement Exercise on Saturday, May 19, 2018, at the Marianas High School Gymnasium in person can watch the event live online on NMC's Facebook page. The ceremony will be streamed live at

https://www.facebook.com/NMC.Proa. The live stream will begin at approximately 4pm (Chamorro Standard Time) on Saturday, May 19, and will end at about 6:30pm. ***(PR)***

### Memorial Day proclamation signing

The Office of the Governor's CNMI Military Veterans Affairs Office would like to invite all military members, families, and the public to a proclamation signing on May 21, 2018, at 9am, at the Office of the Governor conference room for the celebration of Memorial Week on May 21-28 and Memorial Day on Monday, May 28, 2018, 9am, at the Veterans Cemetery in Marpi. ***(PR)***

### Nominees sought for MINA's Green Awards

The Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance is seeking nominations for this year's Green Award for presentation at the annual Green Gala event slated for Sept. 14, 2018. The deadline for submission of nominees is June 1, 2018. Awards are given in the following categories, and nominations will be accepted from Saipan, Tinian, and Rota: Environmental Champion Award, Environmental Heroes Award, Green Business of the Year. Submit nominations to rguerrero.mina@gmail.com. For additional information, call 233-7333. (PR)

**HYATT LEADERSHIP**

Hyatt senior vice president for operations in the Asia Pacific Thomas Smith, fifth from right, and Hyatt vice president in Japan and Micronesia Sam Sakamura, fifth from left, are flanked by the Hyatt Regency Saipan leadership team headed by Hyatt general manager Nick Nishikawa, fourth from right, at a media briefing Wednesday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan in Garapan.

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**Eli D. Cabrera**
Administrator

**Janice E. Castro**
Director, DCRM

## NOTICE TO ALL MARINE SPORTS OPERATORS IN SAIPAN, TINIAN, & ROTA

Pursuant to the recent amendments to NMIAC § 15-10, the Coastal Resources Management Rules and Regulations, the Director of the Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) will be reissuing new Area of Particular Concern (APC) permits to all commercial marine sports operations on the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. The purpose for reissuing marine sports permits is to ensure such permits reflect updated terms and conditions and comply with the current requirements of NMIAC-10-205(h)(4). DCRM hereby advices all marine sports operators on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota to reapply by submitting a new CRM APC permit application to DCRM on or before May 30, 2018. Any marine sports permit issued from previous years will no longer be valid effective May 31, 2018.

**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation**
**Office of the Executive Director**

## INVITATION FOR BIDS
## CUC-IFB-18-020

### REMOVAL AND RELOCATION OF ENGINES 8 AND 4 AT POWER PLANT NO.1, LOWER BASE, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Removal and relocation of Engine 8 Alternator and Engine No. 4 Frame & Alternator at Power Plant No.1, Lower Base, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists, of the removal of the engine frame and alternator assemblies from its foundation, dismantling and further relocation to a designated location as detailed in the bid documents. Both engines have been partially dismantled by the plant personnel.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **60 calendar days** from the date of issuance of the Notice to Proceed (NTP).

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non- refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **May 22, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC power plant Conference Room. Prospective Bidders are mandated to attend both Pre-Bid and Site Visit.

**One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-IFB-18-020 - Removal and relocation of Engine 8 Alternator and Engine No. 4 Frame & Alternator at Power Plant No. 1, Lower Base, Saipan, CNMI"*, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on June 15, 2018**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 90 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered Prospective Bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 31, 2018** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Venugopal Prabhakara, CUC Project Manager – via email venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant-via email marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

# Coffee with a Cop yesterday

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Police officers took time out of their day yesterday to sit down and talk with those interested in speaking with the police about their concerns.

The event, called Coffee With a Cop, happened yesterday at McDonald's Middle Road from 7am to 10am, with the coffee free of charge, courtesy of McDonald's. It entails exactly that, a police officer sitting down with one person to talk about police matters.

The event was first held last year and has been brought back this year due to its success. The Department of Public Safety allows their officers the chance, one day a year for a few hours, to speak with members of the community who want to share their personal ideas on ways to further ensure safety for the CNMI.

Through this event, members of the public can get acquainted with the local police force as equals in a neutral environment over a cup of coffee.

The event is also celebrated in accordance with Public Safety Awareness Month.

# Guam realtors bring priorities to Capitol Hill

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo meets with members of the Guam Association of Realtors during their annual Capitol Hill yesterday.

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**— Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) met with members of the Guam Association of Realtors yesterday to discuss their legislative priorities and issues important to Guam's real estate industry. GAR members are attending the National Association of Realtors' Legislative Meetings and Trade Expo.

GAR members discussed the importance of extending the National Flood Insurance Program through 2022 and providing protections through the Fair Housing Act from discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. GAR members further discussed the importance of enacting strong net neutrality protections to ensure that the internet is an open and competitive place for consumer and businesses. Bordallo expressed her commitment to support these issues and work with her colleagues to advance these legislative policies.

"I have long supported federal legislation that promotes a strong real estate industry so that our people have access to quality and affordable housing on Guam. I appreciate the Guam Association of Realtors raising these priorities with me. Congress should work to provide the necessary protections to safeguard real property and provide fair and open internet access. It is similarly important that we enact broad non-discrimination laws that protect the rights of all Americans. I will support these policies and join my colleagues in advancing appropriate legislation in Congress.

"I also updated our realtors on my work to address Guam's labor challenges and efforts to provide H-2B visa relief for our entire community. I noted that my provision in this year's defense bill extends the exemption for all of Guam from the national H-2B visa cap until the end of fiscal year 2020. It would also provide flexibility for the approval of health care workers for Guam under the program. I believe this is another step in the right direction, and I am committed to securing legislation that would provide full relief for our entire community." ***(PR)***

# Safety outreach via car rental companies

The Marianas Visitors Authority is reaching out to car rental companies to reach more visitors with information on how to have a safe visit.

In April 2018, the MVA began visiting car rental companies to deliver multi-language videos on driving safety, personal safety, and marine protected areas in The Marianas.

"To help ensure our visitors have a safe and enjoyable experience during their visit, we are asking car rental companies to share these videos with their customers, said MVA tour guide certification manager Kuen-Hee Han. "So far, most of the companies have responded very positively to partner with us and pass on this information to their customers. At the same time, we have had the opportunity to hear companies' suggestions and concerns regarding the industry, so it's proving to be a very fruitful initiative."

Companies that promised to share the videos with their customers are ABC Rent-a-Car & Leasing, Islander, Thrifty, Alamo/National, Budget, Hertz, QQ Rental Car, Sangjee Rental Car, Monster, Micronesia Car Rental, LEI Car Rental, although some companies may still need to receive approval from national headquarters.

"We encourage all companies interested in sharing these downloadable videos to contact the MVA," said Han. "In the meantime, we aim to visit all remaining car rental companies in the coming weeks."

Han added that all the companies she visited have road safety books published by the Commonwealth Law Revision Commission for every car they rent. The MVA's safety videos also air on The Visitors Channel in English, Korea, Chinese, Japanese, and Russia. ***(MVA)***

## IN BILL ALLOWING GOVERNOR TO APPOINT MAYOR

# Apatang: We urge committee to study all options

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Apatang

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang has come out in cautious support of the bill that would allow the sitting administration to appoint a mayor should the need arise.

In his comments on the bill last May 15, Apatang said he supports the bill's intent to speed up and simplify the process of appointing a new mayor but he would like to urge the committee to study the possibility of a negative outcome.

According to Apatang, filling a mayoral vacancy can be viewed as a sensitive subject since mayors are politically elected.

He pointed out the possibility of a prolonged selection process and confirmation process if a mayor whose affiliation with a political party is different from a sitting governor and majority members of the Senate who must be replaced because of an untimely death or incapacitation.

Senate Bill 20-79 (SD2) states that if a vacancy were to arise in any office of the mayor and less than half of the term of the mayor remains, the governor is given the power to fill the vacancy with any individual he chooses that is qualified for the position with the consent of the Senate.

The amendment made to the bill voids the option to appoint the first runner up in the previous election.

Apatang said the idea of appointing the mayoral candidate with the second highest amount of votes should not be overlooked.

"The offices of the mayors are a very important component in protecting the safety, health and welfare of the public…Because mayors are elected by the people, there is an underlying significance in committing to the wishes of the voting public…the assumption of a mayor's office by the second highest vote getter in the senatorial district… should be given to that candidate," he stated.

Apatang also stated in his comments that he is aware that the bill was drafted to ensure that what happened with the Northern Islands Municipality is not repeated, where the staff of the late mayor was let go for not supporting him during elections, but there are still considerations to be made in regards to the bill.

"There is no assurance that any new mayor will decide to staff his or her office with staff of the late mayor and that the incident related to the former, late mayor of the Northern Islands in 2017 will not be repeated. The bill is not an assurance…a new mayor who assumes office and finds a staff that supported a mayor whose political affiliation was different from his/hers will be pressed to retain the same staff that did not support him/her," he wrote.

The bill is currently with the Senate and is still under discussion.

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# Asian/Pacific Americans in Congress recognized

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**—The Committee on House Administration of the U.S. House of Representatives has released *Asian and Pacific Islander American in Congress*, *1900-2017* to coincide with the May celebration of Asian Pacific Americans month.

The 600-page work contains profiles of every Asian and Pacific American who has served in Congress, along with a narrative history of people of Asian Pacific heritage in America. The new book is part of a larger series that includes *Women in Congress, 1917-2006; Black Americans in Congress, 1870-2008;* and *Hispanic Americans in Congress, 1822-2012*. The APA history was commissioned by a House Concurrent Resolution in 2001, authored by Guam Delegate Robert A. Underwood.

From the very first APA member of Congress, Robert W. Wilcox (Home Rule Party/Hawaii), to the most recently elected—Pramila Jayapal (D-WA), Ro Khanna (D-CA), S. Raja Krishnamoorthi (D-IL), Stephanie Murphy (D-FL) and Kamala Harris (D-CA)—the growing influence and presence of Asian and Pacific Americans throughout our nation is clearly reflected. Today, there are 18 APA members of Congress, the largest number ever.

"The people of the Marianas can be proud to be part of the growing population of Asian and Pacific Americans," said Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP). "We have so much to contribute of our cultures to enrich the American tapestry."

Sablan is the first and only person from the Northern Marianas to serve in Congress. His biography in the book characterizes his work as focused on providing for the basic needs of his constituents and seeking parity for the Northern Marianas in federal law. He has introduced more than 40 bills during his time in Congress. Sablan's first bill, conveying submerged lands rights, became Public Law 113-34.

"As a member of the Agriculture Committee, he added a provision to the 2014 Agricultural Act to create a pilot program to bring the Marianas into the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program," according to the official history.

"He also authored legislation to increase federal support for education in the Northern Marianas and other U.S. insular areas. The necessary change in funding formulas for low-income island students was successfully included in the 2015 Every Student Succeeds Act."

The new history book also explains how Sablan is a voice for the people of the Marianas, using his position to educate Congress about living conditions in the islands.

"[Y]our're lucky enough to get two to three hours of water a day," he is quoted as saying on the House floor in 2009. "And not just that, but, you can't drink the water anyway." Since then, with Sablan's support, federal funding for water infrastructure in the Marianas has increased sevenfold, the official House publication reports.

In addition to the newly published book, there are lesson plans and interactive features available in an online companion at the History, Art & Archives website of the U.S. House of Representatives at http://history.house.gov. ***(PR)***

# Call for submissions: Memorial Day tribute

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) invites veterans, service members, military family members, and members of the community to participate in a special Memorial Day video tribute honoring those men and women who have died while serving in the nation's armed forces, as well as those who passed away after service.

"The congressional office, led by our Wounded Warrior Fellow Randy Johnson, is preparing a video montage for release on Memorial Day," Sablan said. "We welcome photographs, videos, and visual artwork remembering and honoring our warriors and their contributions and sacrifices in service to our country."

Submissions will be accepted up to May 23, and should include the names, dates of birth and death, branch of service, rank, unit, any operation or conflict served, as well as a brief message of remembrance, up to 75 words.

For more information, or to submit a tribute, contact Johnson at randy.johnson@mail.house.gov or call 323-2647. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
**Department of Community and Cultural Affairs**
Office of the Secretary
Caller Box 10007, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950
Tel. (670) 654-2587 • Fax (670) 664-2571

## NOTICE FOR PUBLIC HEARING

**Notice is hereby given that the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs (DCCA) will hold a public hearing to provide an opportunity for the public to comment on the provisions of child care services under the State Plan for Child Care and Development Fund FFY2019-2021**

**All interested persons are invited to attend the hearing to provide their views relative to the proposed State Plan either orally or in writing at the hearing. The Public Hearing is scheduled at these dates, times and location.**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| June 4, 2018 | Kagman Community Center, Saipan | 6:00p.m. |
| June 5, 2018 | Tinian Youth Center, Tinian | 6:00p.m. |
| June 7, 2018 | Multi-Purpose Hall, Susupe, Saipan | 6:00p.m. |
| June 8, 2018 | Sinapalo Youth Center, Rota | 6:00p.m. |

**Sign language interpreter is available at all public hearings. If requested at least 5 working days before the scheduled public hearing, large print of the State Plan may be provided.**

**Copies of the proposed State Plan will be available by May 21, 2018 via the Child Care Licensing Program website (http://cnmicclp.org) or by calling (670) 664-2576/2589/2575.**

**All written comments should be received by the Child Care and Development Fund on or before June 15, 2018 and forwarded to: Maribel Loste, CCDF Program Administrator as a hard copy to CCDF Office, Bldg No. 1347 Ascension Ct. Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950 or via email at ccdf.maribelloste@gmail.com**

**/s/ Robert H. Hunter**
**DCCA Secretary**

## COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055, SAIPAN MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

## NOTICE TO BIDDERS

**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA)** is inviting qualified contractors to submit their qualifications and bid proposals for the **BENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AIRFIELD MARKING AND SIGNAGE IMPROVEMENTS, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AIP Nos. 3-69-0003-26/XX).**

Sealed Proposals will be received at the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, at Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at **2:00 PM, MONDAY, JUNE 18, 2018,** at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The Project, in general, requires the removal and replacement of all airfield markings, procurement and replacement of airfield signage and other miscellaneous work in accordance with the plans and specifications and in compliance with FAA's Advisory Circular No. 150/5340-1L.

The Project is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within ninety (90) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for construction of the project shall be in accordance with Item G-100-3.2 (Contract Time) of the General Project Requirement of the Technical Specifications. Liquidated damages shall be in accordance with Item G-100-3.4 (Liquidated Damages) of the General Project Requirements. The contractor shall be assessed with the liquidated damages if the completion of the Project is delayed beyond the contract time without excuse.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

Bid proposal and contract documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the CPA Accounting Office, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS ($150.00)** for each set of plan and specification documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the Rota Port Manager's Office at 10:00 AM, FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 2018 to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. A site visit will be followed by the pre-bid conference.

Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the bid opening.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are required to use the bid schedule form on the CD-Rom. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by U.S. Treasury listed or CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than **TEN PERCENT (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 70-24 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All bidders shall comply with all Federal requirements under this federally funded procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Veteran's Preference, Affirmative Action and Government-wide Debarment and Suspension and Government-wide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Further details on all Federal requirements are provided in the specifications.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date: May 11, 2018

# MVA hosts European dive media tour

Reaching out to diving enthusiasts throughout Europe, the Marianas Visitors Authority recently welcomed representatives of 11 European dive media outlets for a tour of Rota and Saipan.

The familiarization tour was coordinated through the MVA's representative office in South Korea, which has branches throughout Europe.

"Although the number of traditional visitors we receive from Europe is very small, divers are a niche market that will travel great distances for a great diving experience. That's something the Marianas has to offer," said MVA marketing manager Broc Calvo. "Thanks to this excellent opportunity captured by our Korea office, European divers will now have the chance to know about and choose the Marianas their next destination."

In addition to diving several iconic sites, such as Grotto, the group visited various sites and attractions on the two islands. A bike adventure including buffet lunch, snorkeling, and spa was experienced with Marianas Trekking and a tour of scenic and historic sites in the northern Marpi area of Saipan was conducted. The group attended a cultural dinner show at Fiesta Resort & Spa and took a UTV tour to Mt. Tapochau with Let's Go Tour. Dinner was also enjoyed at Surf Club,

Naked Fish Bar & Grill, and a sunset dinner cruise. T Galleria Saipan, I Love Saipan, and other shopping venues were also visited.

Participating media were Nature Plongée, Oceane, Subocea, Spot My Dive, Pongez!, Plongée TV, SONO TUR (DiveFanClub), AYISIGI DIVING & TRAVEL, Absolut Scuba, Reisecenter Federsee, and Pacific Travel House. ***(MVA)***

Participants in the Marianas Visitors Authority's European Dive familiarization tour take a commemorative photo at Laulau Beach on April 11, 2018. MVA

# Memorial Day at AMP

In observance of Memorial Day, American Memorial Park will honor all those who died serving in America's armed forces.

In remembrance of the American servicemen who lost their lives during the World War II Marianas Campaign, park staff invites the community to join them in lighting hundreds of luminaria along the walkway to the Court of Honor. The luminaria will be lighted on Friday evening, May 25, 2018, and remain lit through Memorial Day.

Volunteers are invited to help lay out the luminaria display on May 25, from 3pm to 6pm. Volunteers would also help to place a luminaria in front of the Court of Honor to remember the fallen. A table will be set up with materials to personalize the luminaria; LED tea lights will be provided.

From May 25 to May 28, take time to remember those who gave their lives in service to our country. Visit the Court of Honor, which is inscribed with the names of 5,204 servicemen killed or missing in action during World War II. At sunset, you may pay tribute to our fallen in the glow of over 500 luminarias. Each luminaria represents 10 names inscribed on the Court of Honor. Wreaths made by participating local schools will also be on display to honor all servicemen and women who have lost their lives while serving our country.

During Memorial Day weekend and throughout the year, between the hours of 9pm and 5pm, everyone is welcome to visit the Visitor Center, watch the park film, and tour the exhibits. For more information contact ranger Brooke Nevitt at 234-7207 Ext. 2020 or email address at brooke_nevitt@nps.gov.

American Memorial Park was created to honor the American and Marianas people who died in the World War II Marianas Campaign. ***(NPS)***

# Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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## EDITORIAL

# Lawmakers should follow Constitution on waging war

Americans might differ over the finer points of the Founding Fathers' plan to share war-making authority between the executive and legislative branches, but the basic principle has always been clear. Congress, and only Congress, has the power to declare war; the president and his military advisers are responsible for waging it.

Lawmakers' latest attempt to restate their constitutional prerogative has those aims backward.

Since the start of this century, three consecutive presidents expanded the war against terrorism well beyond its original purposes—yet Congress repeatedly failed to update or set aside the measures it passed in 2001 and 2002 authorizing the invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq. Lawmakers back then had no inkling of the future rise of Islamic State, the Syrian civil war, or the spread of Islamic extremism in northern Africa and the Arabian Peninsula. Those initial authorizations have been stretched beyond the bounds of plausibility.

Now a couple of Senate heavy hitters—the Republican chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, Bob Corker, and former Democratic vice-presidential nominee Tim Kaine—have put together an authorization bill supplanting the previous two. Unlike previous proposals, it has a chance of actually getting to a floor vote.

On the biggest issue—providing legal footing for the expanded war—the proposal does fairly well. It would explicitly add Islamic State to the list of targeted parties, alongside the Taliban and al-Qaeda. It would also give the president authority to take the battle to five named "associated forces," including al-Qaeda offshoots in Syria and Yemen, and to further broaden the mission as new groups appear in new battlefields. Before any such broadening, the White House would have to give Congress a detailed rationale.

All of that is sound. In other ways, the measure is disappointing.

Though it repeals the two earlier authorizations, the bill confusingly adds that it provides "uninterrupted authority" for the use of force authorized in 2001. It's hard to say what this means, but some fear it might give the president a back-door way to undertake missions not clearly authorized under the new bill.

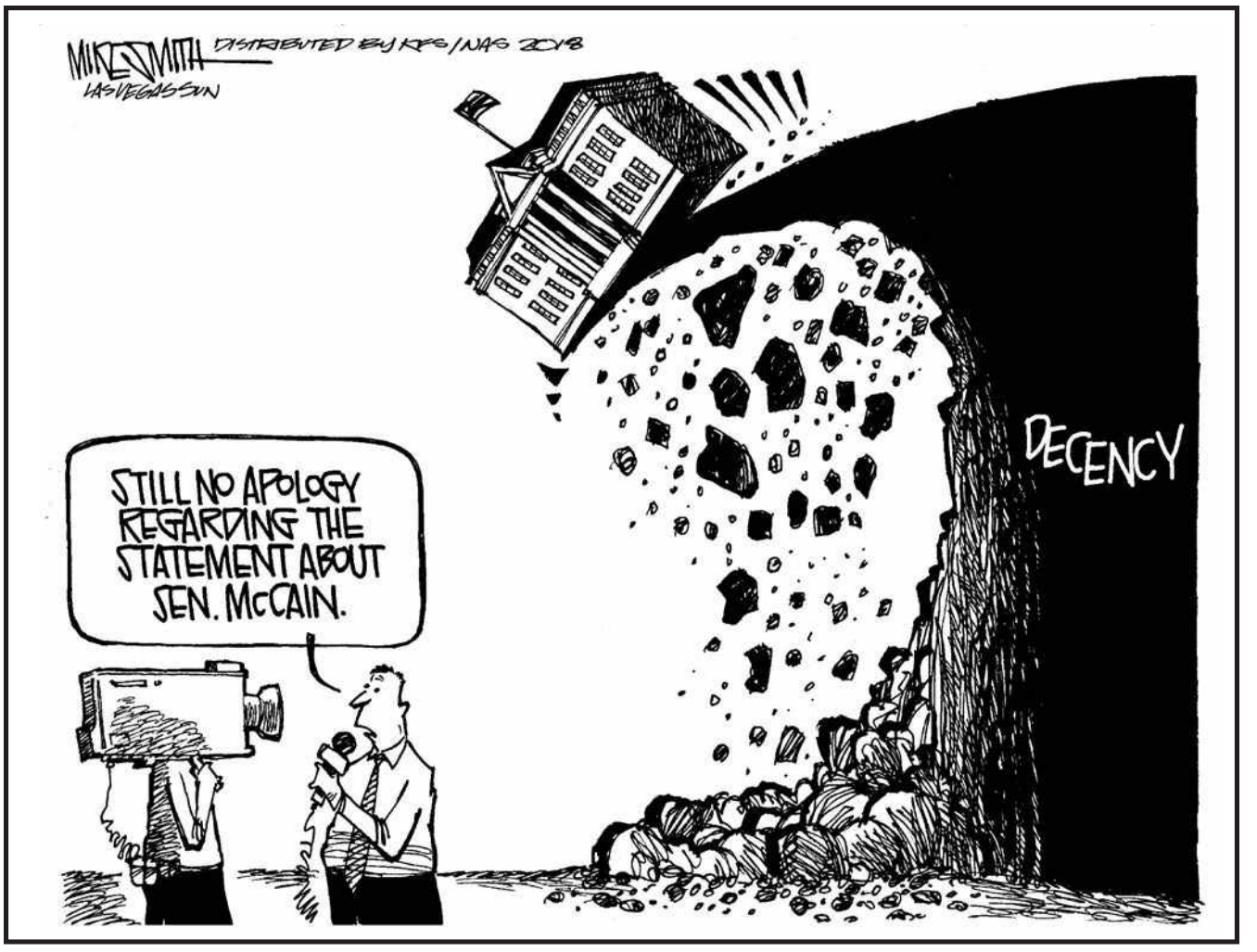
Equally worrisome, the proposal contains no sunset provision requiring reauthorization by Congress. Instead, it would mandate only a floor debate every four years on repealing or replacing. That seems unduly passive.

At the same time, the bill mandates that if the president wanted to target a new enemy force or significantly expand the war's geographical scope, Congress would have 60 days to review the idea before being obliged to vote on it. Lawmakers probably wouldn't reject such a request, but the possibility could serve to tie the commander-in-chief's hands on essentially operational matters.

In addition, although it's good that the executive branch has to keep Congress informed about new fronts, there's no requirement to release a declassified version of its case. So far as the broader public is concerned, the bill would fail to provide greater transparency and accountability.

Congress had stood on the sidelines of the war on terrorism for too long. This was not just constitutionally incor-

*See LAWMAKERS on Page 17*




# How did we get here?

**By JUAN DIEGO C. BLANCO**
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

In 2008, the only labor problem facing the CNMI was too many workers and not enough jobs. Any big economic comeback was a pie-in-the-sky dream for us back then. But at least we knew that, if needed, we could make our own immigration decisions for ourselves: in a matter of weeks, or as long as it would take for our own legislators to act.

And now? We're sitting on the cusp of an economic boom—an economic boom that might not happen, because of laws made for us but not by us, 8,000 miles away in Washington, D.C.—the same Washington that is obligated by the Covenant to protect and promote our best interests.

So how did we get here?

Remember the Unity March?

If you haven't been here for as long as I and other NMDs have, here's an article from 10 years ago: http://www.mvariety.com/cnmi/cnmi-news/local/13162-unity-march-organizers-call-for-improved-immigration-status

Foreign workers and their self-appointed advocates (here's looking at you, Wendy) marched down Beach Road, together with many (mostly foreign) business owners, and quite a few opportunistic lawyers. They waved flags and shouted slogans. They had decided that handing over control of our immigration to Washington would fix all our problems.

What did the unity marchers promise us about federalizing immigration?

They promised that it would fix our economy and give us access to high-quality workers. They promised that it would end fake no-show jobs created just for immigration benefits. They promised it would end the uncertainty of people who have lived here for decades, not knowing whether they can stay another year. And they promised that it would end business owners' uncertainty of dealing with capricious politics.

You read that right. They wanted to hand off control to Washington. Because they wanted to avoid politics.

Actually, the feds never even promised us any of those benefits of federalizing immigration. The feds didn't promise us anything. They only gave us what we asked for: federalized immigration.

About 150 of us NMDs gathered by the beach to ask the tough questions. Exactly what benefits would federalization bring us? Who would set the worker caps? What input would we have on how it was run? Would all the rules be made from 8,000 miles away?

Nobody listened to us, though. Even Pete A. Tenorio, our Washington representative at the time, wasn't too interested. All everybody could see was the shiny and very vague promise that the Americans were dangling in front of us.

Does this sound familiar to anybody? Especially if you've read Justice Villagomez's thoughts on the Covenant?

But most everybody believed that the grass is greener on the other side of the ocean. So they gave us federalized immigration.

And what do we have now?

Are there any fewer scams? Any fewer abuses? Reading the newspapers can answer that question.

Do workers feel any more secure now? Talk to some of them if you don't know the answer. Or look outside Mount Carmel to see the double-deep line of cars for immediate quick sale.

How about business owners? Are they happy with the 4,999 worker cap and the federally mandated minimum wage? You got nothing there either.

So why was everybody cheering when Washington was given control of our islands' immigration policy? In fact, why was anybody cheering? I'm writing you from the perspective of an NMD, but I don't think anybody gained from the federalization. It's not a matter of one side won and the other side lost.

How many of those 6,000 "unity" marchers would have been with us 150 NMDs if they had known what we all know now? If we could go back in time and show them what lies ahead, how many of them would show up on our side of the issue now? Probably quite a few. Even quite a few of the CWs.

Whatever the faults of the CNMI immigration system, it was better than the current situation of everybody but 4,999 lottery winners having to go home. Even if you've lived here for decades. Even if you have a job waiting for you. Even if a business—or the hospital—crucially needs you.

Life isn't a YouTube video and we can't go back in time. An old guy like me can only say "I told you so." And more importantly, "We told you so." I wasn't the only one who knew what would be coming, but I was one of the few.

We can use this situation to renegotiate the Covenant. The Covenant was supposed to help our development, wasn't it? How is cutting down our foreign workforce helping our development? But negotiating the Covenant won't happen overnight. Nothing happens overnight when dealing with the feds. That's one of the lessons we learned too slowly.

We're just a small island. But look at California. They're the fifth biggest economy in the world. And they've got exactly the same problem: they depend largely on foreign labor. And with

*See HOW on Next Page*

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# Can we put off procrastinating?

**By ED STEPHENS**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.*

It used to be standard shtick in newspapers to, once a year or so, report on the antics of the Procrastinators' Club of America. I don't recall the exact jokes, but the gist would be something like a 1978 article announcing the imminent 1964 meeting of the club. That sort of humor would be considered too stodgy and gray-suited for today's tastes. But, back in the day, we got a chuckle out of it. It was deadpan and self-effacing. After all, who among us hasn't procrastinated?

As for the Procrastinator's Club of America, it was founded in 1956 by Lester Morton "Les" Waas, a Philadelphia native who passed away in 2016 at the age of 94. Waas served as an Army Air Corps pilot in WWII and he operated in the Pacific theater. I don't know if his duty ever brought him to Saipan, but it's fun to imagine that it did; after all, Saipan isn't exactly immune to the art and science of procrastination. After the war Waas returned to civilian life and started an advertising agency.

Anyway, back to procrastination. It's more than fodder for office humor. It is, apparently, a topic that's getting a lot of attention. I took a glance at book listings. I tallied over two dozen titles about how to overcome procrastination. Most were in the ever-fertile self-help niche of the U.S. market. Well, at least the writers aren't procrastinating. They're really cranking out the pages.

The established wisdom is that procrastination is a bad practice because it leaves things undone. That makes sense to me, at least in many cases. But there are other views on the matter, and they also make sense to me.

Nassim Taleb, for example, devotes three pages to the topic in his book *Antifragile*. The big idea here is that heeding the impulse to "do something" can actually be counter-productive because it can interfere with nature's workings.

"Few understand," writes Taleb, "that procrastination is our natural defense, letting things take care of themselves."

So, to draw from an example in the book, if you have a backache, it may be wiser to give it a chance to heal itself than to have back surgery right away. There are times when non-action is more prudent than action, especially when non-action avoids risks that action entails. (Let's keep in mind this was a hypothetical example offered as philosophical food for thought; it wasn't designed to diagnose anyone's medical condition.)

Furthermore, there are situations in life where pangs to procrastinate are symptoms to be heeded instead of obstacles to be smashed.

"Since procrastination is a message from our natural willpower via low motivation," writes Taleb, "the cure is changing the environment, or one's profession, by selecting one in which one does not have to fight one's impulses."

I'm sure on board with that. Big time. I've been lucky enough to do work that I enjoy doing, but over the years I've seen a lot of people trying to force themselves to be productive in contexts that aren't a good fit with them.

Taleb's overall take is consistent with some of the ancient Chinese wisdom, and, in fact, he mentions the sage Lao Tzu and his doctrine of *wu wei*, which Taleb defines as "passive achievement." You could also define it more literally, but less meaningfully, as "without action," but no matter how we split those hairs, the point I'll make is that it's not about haphazard idleness, but, is, instead, about cultivating an awareness that doesn't put our actions at odds with nature's forces.

Saipan offers a great example of this notion. Swimming is part of the island lifestyle. The most basic, and important, part of swimming is floating. Floating is an exercise in *wu wei*. A good swimmer floats with nary a movement. It's the non-swimmers who splash around and exert themselves.

Well, since we've covered the Procrastinators' Club, Les Waas, Nassim Taleb, and even Lao Tzu here, I'm going to close things out by offering one of my thoughts in the management realm:

In the management realm, if you find that otherwise responsible workers are struggling with procrastination, it's likely a cue for you to redesign the work flow, including procedures and training materials, so that things can get done more smoothly and present less of a headache to the workers. Procrastination is a red flag. We can use that flag to everyone's advantage if we heed it instead of trying to steamroller over people while ignoring how they feel about things.

# Economy: 'Depends for you!'

**By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

*John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the* Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

Before the war, the Micronesian Islands had economic self-support, a Japanese success story "unlike any other" even after the atrocities of World War II, according to noted historian Fr. Fran Hezel, SJ, in a recent talk at Sophia University in Japan.

Japan proved that commercialization of sugar in the NMI was a successful economic venture. It pulled in the marketing of farm and fish products in the process.

By 1936, the NMI was exporting some 13 million yen of sugar annually or about $24 million a year in today's dollar-yen rate. This doesn't include revenue generated from farming and fishing. There was a huge market throughout cities in Japan. We could reasonably project that the total for all produce is about $30 million per year.

What are we exporting today?

None!

How much are we generating?

None!

Why hasn't anything happened in these sectors since then?

**Reset:** The question is unfair against Uncle Sam and needs to be put into perspective for historic clarity.

Since the inception of our constitutional government in 1978, we didn't want any federal government interference in our internal affairs. Uncle Sam stood back while consistently providing funds per the agreement for basic infrastructure.

The obligation to formulate an economic plan became the sole obligation of the NMI since 1978. Funds were made available for this purpose through CDA, SBA, and USDA.

Obviously, competent and visionary leadership was the missing link in this equation. There's a need to initiate complimentary developmental programs in farming and fishing to supplement the tourism industry. It was ignored altogether since 40 years ago.

In 1993 we told the U.S. Congress "no more grant funds." We had a healthy economy from the combined apparel and tourism industries in addition to healthy Nippon investments. Perhaps we boasted a bit prematurely. Shortly thereafter, the apparel industry was shuttered followed by the exit of major Japanese investments.

The exit of exogenous investments proved, time and again, the fragility of an island economy. Its seesaw swings as predictable as the super storm during the typhoon season. In other words, we never planned any of the wealth that we had in the '90s. Recovery of billions of dollars in losses was left to float like driftwood in the deep blue.

Trust me, I sat in umpteen number of so-called leadership meetings where economic studies or plans were trashed and placed in shelves to gather dust. The plans, costing several million dollars, were never given a chance.

I was at a loss, knowing that, without a plan, there's nothing to undertake that allows the NMI to move from point "A" to point "B." Here we are today, still rolling on the mat of *mañana*, yawning. Isn't good government measured by its economy? What's ours?

**Educated:** It is very encouraging to see highly educated women enter the public domain to serve as representatives of "we the people."

They include Sen. Terry Santos of Rota, a political science major from the University of Guam, Tina Sablan, another college graduate, and two other women whose last names are Babauta. I've heard them speak and their verbal facility and ability to articulate issues are a tale of their strength in putting issues into perspective in the discussion of substantive issues.

It isn't a matter of pushing women's power as much as the fact that these are "educated women" who could inject fully informed or educated discussion in both chamber. This should be a pleasant transition for "we the people."

Heard also that Edward Maratita Jr. and Albert Taitano have thrown their names into the crowded Rota contest. Interesting that Maratita has boasted college credentials that begins to look like Christmas lights. Share with the voters the accredited U.S. institutions where you secured your JD and other Ds? It certainly needs verification so voters could assess your background and the legitimacy of your claims.

Taitano must explain his role in the near-successful agenda allegedly pushing a reported $3 million power generator sale to CUC for $11 million. Could you share who's behind this scheme? Recalled reading of a lie going around the world twice before truth could tie its bootstraps! People, ever heard of the term integrity?

Elsewhere, it's bad seeking re-entry into public office if you're an incumbent, especially a GOP incumbent. Your super performance, raising your salaries by 80 percent when more than half the workers are stuck in poverty income level isn't going to fly anywhere. In fact, it's a self-placed bomb in the campaign trail you'd be visiting sooner than later.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# Thank you

To Saipan Mayor Dave Apatang, thank you for moving to a new and spacious office to accommodate people with disabilities and our elderly family members with easy access to the services you provide to the public on a daily basis. I urge other government agencies and private businesses to follow our mayor's footsteps in ensuring their buildings and parking spaces are easy and readily accessible to all members of the public, especially people with disabilities and the elderly.

People with disabilities and the elderly also pay honest money for services rendered, so in turn government agencies and private businesses should also do their part in making sure one's experience

with their establishment is safe and convenient to the highest standard. I speak in my personal capacity as a person with a disability who currently uses a wheelchair to get around.

**John DLG Demapan Jr.**
*Dandan, Saipan*

## HOW

*From Page 14*

new regulations, Washington has taken away much of their foreign labor, both at the high end (H1B visas) and at the low end (undocumented agricultural workers).

And what is California doing? At least they're standing up to Washington. They've announced that they won't assist the feds in tracking and deporting people who aren't criminals. It's a poke in Washington's eye, and I love it.

So if California can poke Washington's eye like that, why do we islanders get lambasted as ingrates every time we challenge Washington? Maybe we should make the CNMI a sanctuary commonwealth as well. Washington can do what it likes 8,000 miles away, but we'll do what we need to do here for our own dignity, our own economy, and the workers we need to make it happen.

Washington isn't a generous uncle handing out free candy and wanting nothing in return. There's nothing free in life. Too bad many of us here have taken too long to learn that. When we handed over control to Washington in 2009, we shouldn't have expected free milk and cookies. But many of us did.

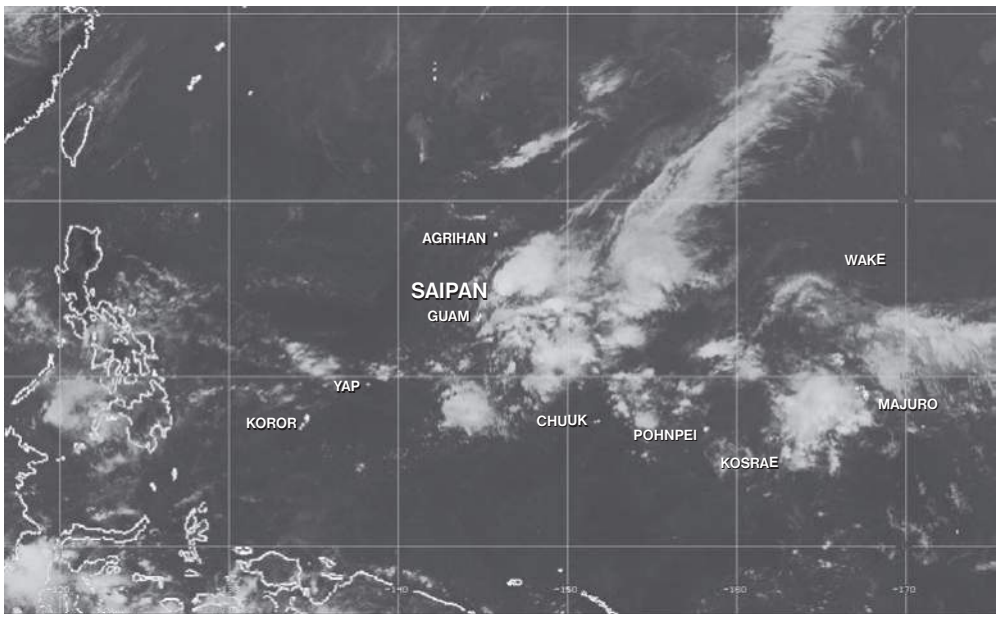
Let's wake up. Let's assert our own destiny. Let's do what's best for our island, and our people, not for politicians 8,000 miles away.

# The Weather

## 5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

| TODAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Southeast winds 5 to 15 mph. | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southeast winds 5 to 15 mph. | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southeast winds 5 to 15 mph. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. |
| ▲87° ▼78° | ▲87° ▼78° | ▲87° ▼78° | ▲88° ▼78° | ▲88° ▼78° |

## YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE




**PICTURE TIME: 12:06 PM, THURSDAY, MAY 17, 2018**
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A trough axis remains over the region and continues to trigger showers and thunderstorms. While activity has briefly decreased over Guam, satellite imagery shows thunderstorms continuing to develop across the CNMI. While a brief let-up in activity is expected later this evening, scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms will resume tonight and continue the next couple of days until the trough pushes well to the west.

*Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/*

| MICRONESIA | | ▲ ▼ °F |
|---|---|---|
| Guam and Rota | Thunderstorm | 87° / 79° |
| Palau | Thunderstorm | 87° / 79° |
| Yap | Thunderstorm | 86° / 80° |
| Chuuk | Thunderstorm | 87° / 81° |
| Pohnpei | Thunderstorm | 86° / 78° |
| Kosrae | Thunderstorm | 86° / 78° |
| Majuro | Thunderstorm | 85° / 80° |

| AROUND THE GLOBE | | ▲ ▼ °F |
|---|---|---|
| Auckland | Showers | 64° / 57° |
| Beijing | Showers | 81° / 59° |
| Hong Kong | Thunderstorm | 88° / 81° |
| Honolulu | Partly Cloudy | 84° / 73° |
| London | Mostly Sunny | 61° / 45° |
| Los Angeles | Partly Cloudy | 69° / 57° |
| Manila | Partly Cloudy | 97° / 81° |
| Melbourne | Mostly Cloudy | 57° / 48° |
| Miami | Thunderstorm | 80° / 75° |
| New York | Mostly Cloudy | 75° / 60° |
| Osaka | Rain | 73° / 55° |
| Paris | Partly Cloudy | 64° / 46° |
| Busan | Showers | 63° / 55° |
| Rome | Thunderstorm | 73° / 55° |
| Salem | Partly Cloudy | 86° / 67° |
| San Francisco | Partly Cloudy | 59° / 51° |
| Seoul | Sunny | 73° / 54° |
| Tokyo | Rain | 75° / 57° |
| Washington, DC | Thunderstorm | 66° / 59° |

**NMI CRIME STOPPERS**
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

| TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY | | FEET |
|---|---|---|
| 3:49 AM | LOW TIDE | 1.08 |
| 8:43 AM | HIGH TIDE | 1.98 |
| 4:03 PM | LOW TIDE | -0.55 |
| 11:06 PM | HIGH TIDE | 2.04 |

| DAY | SUNRISE | SUNSET |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 5:47 AM | 6:39 PM |
| Saturday | 5:47 AM | 6:39 PM |
| Sunday | 5:47 AM | 6:39 PM |
| Monday | 5:47 AM | 6:40 PM |
| Tuesday | 5:46 AM | 6:40 PM |

| DAY | MOONRISE | MOONSET | MOONRISE |
|---|---|---|---|
| Today | 8:13 AM | 9:31 PM | - |
| Saturday | 9:14 AM | 10:31 PM | - |
| Sunday | 10:16 AM | 11:27 PM | - |
| Monday | 11:17 AM | - | - |
| Tuesday | - | 12:20 AM | 12:15 PM |

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E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 8, 2018

### DEPARTURES

**SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA6394 | 4:15am | 5:05am | Daily |
| UA6392 | 8:40am | 9:30am | Daily |
| UA6391 | 1:30pm | 3:10pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota |
| UA6390 | 2:20pm | 3:10pm | 2, 3, 6 |
| UA6398 | 6:05pm | 6:55pm | Daily |
| UA6396 | 9:50pm | 10:40pm | Daily |

**SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA6391 | 1:30pm | 2:05pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |

**ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA6391 | 2:35pm | 3:10pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |

**SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7C3451 | 3:10am | 6:10am | 1, 7 |
| 7C3451 | 4:00am | 7:05am | 4, 5 |

**SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| TW308 | 2:00am | 6:05am | Daily |
| OZ626 | 2:10am | 6:00am | 1 |
| OZ626 | 2:50am | 6:40am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 |
| LJ652 | 3:40am | 7:30am | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
| 7C3403 | 4:45am | 8:30am | Daily |
| 7C3401 | 4:00pm | 7:45pm | Daily |

**SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8648 | 5:40am | 8:40am | 1, 4, 5, 7 |

**SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| JD396 | 7:30am | 12:00pm | 1 |
| JD396 | 4:50pm | 10:00pm | 4 |

**SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8646 | 4:20am | 7:30am | 2, 6 |

**SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MU764 | 1:30am | 6:35am | 3, 5, 7 |

**SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ626/701 | 2:10am | 10:55am | 1 via ICN |
| OZ626/701 | 2:50am | 10:55am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| UA6394/191 | 4:15am | 9:00am | 2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA6394/PR111 | 4:15am | 8:10am | 7 via GUM |
| UA6394/PR111 | 4:15am | 9:20am | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM |
| UA6398/183 | 6:05pm | 9:40pm | 2, 5 via GUM |
| UA6398/183 | 6:05pm | 9:50pm | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA6398/193 | 6:05pm | 11:50pm | 2, 5 via GUM-ROR |

**SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| HX077 | 1:50am | 5:15am | 1, 4 |
| OZ626/721 | 2:10am | 11:50am | 1 via ICN |
| OZ626/721 | 2:50am | 11:50am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| UO43 | 5:45am | 8:40am | 1, 3, 5, 7 |
| UA6398/159 | 6:05pm | 11:00pm | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM |

### ARRIVALS

**GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA6393 | 2:45am | 3:35am | Daily |
| UA6395 | 7:15am | 8:05am | Daily |
| UA6391 | 12:10pm | 1:00pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
| UA6390 | 12:10pm | 1:50pm | 2, 3, 6 via Rota |
| UA6397 | 4:45pm | 5:35pm | Daily |
| UA6399 | 8:30pm | 9:20pm | Daily |

**GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA6390 | 12:10pm | 12:45pm | 2, 3, 6 |

**ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA6390 | 1:15pm | 1:50pm | 2, 3, 6 |

**BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7C3452 | 9:00pm | 2:10am+1 | 4 |
| 7C3452 | 9:05pm | 2:10am+1 | 3, 6, 7 |

**SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7C3402 | 9:30am | 3:00pm | Daily |
| OZ625 | 7:40pm | 1:00am+1 | 7 |
| TW307 | 7:45pm | 1:00am+1 | Daily |
| OZ625 | 8:20pm | 1:40am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |
| LJ651 | 9:10pm | 2:40am+1 | 3, 4, 6, 7 |
| 7C3404 | 10:10pm | 3:40am+1 | Daily |

**SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8647 | 10:20pm | 4:30am+1 | 3, 4, 6, 7 |

**HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| JD395 | 8:25am | 3:30pm | 4 |
| JD395 | 9:55pm | 5:00am+1 | 7 |

**GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8645 | 7:40pm | 3:00am+1 | 1, 5 |

**BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MU763 | 4:25pm | 12:30am+1 | 2, 4, 6 |

**MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA182/6395 | 12:40am | 8:05am | 3, 6 via GUM |
| UA190/6397 | 9:55am | 5:35pm | 2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM |
| OZ702/625 | 12:25pm | 1:00am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ702/625 | 12:25pm | 1:40am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| PR110/UA6395 | 10:05pm | 8:05am+1 | Daily via GUM |
| UA192/6395 | 10:30pm | 8:05am+1 | 2, 5 via ROR-GUM |
| UA184/6395 | 10:55pm | 8:05am+1 | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |

**HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ722/625 | 1:15pm | 1:00am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ722/625 | 1:15pm | 1:40am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| HX076 | 5:15pm | 12:15am+1 | 3, 7 |
| UO42 | 6:50pm | 1:45am+1 | 7 |
| UO42 | 9:30pm | 4:25am+1 | 2, 4, 6 |
| UA116/6395 | 11:55pm | 8:05am+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM |

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

## STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

**SAIPAN TO ROTA**

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1301 | 7:30AM | 8:00AM | Daily |
| 1302 | 11:30AM | 12:00PM | Daily |
| 1303 | 4:00PM | 4:30PM | Daily |

**ROTA TO SAIPAN**

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3101 | 8:15AM | 8:45AM | Daily |
| 3102 | 1:45PM | 2:15PM | Daily |
| 3103 | 4:45PM | 5:15PM | Daily |

**ROTA TO GUAM**

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3401 | 12:15PM | 12:45PM | Daily |

**GUAM TO ROTA**

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4301 | 1:00PM | 1:30PM | Daily |

**SAIPAN TO TINIAN**

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1201 | 7:00AM | 7:15AM | Daily |
| 1202 | 8:00AM | 8:15AM | Daily |
| 1203 | 9:00AM | 9:15AM | Daily |
| 1204 | 10:00AM | 10:15AM | Daily |
| 1205 | 11:00AM | 11:15AM | Daily |
| 1206 | 12:00PM | 12:15PM | Daily |
| 1207 | 1:00PM | 1:15PM | Daily |
| 1208 | 2:00PM | 2:15PM | Daily |
| 1209 | 3:00PM | 3:15PM | Daily |
| 1210 | 4:00PM | 4:15PM | Daily |
| 1211 | 5:00PM | 5:15PM | Daily |
| 1212 | 6:00PM | 6:15PM | Daily |

**TINIAN TO SAIPAN**

| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2102 | 7:30AM | 7:45AM | Daily |
| 2103 | 8:30AM | 8:45AM | Daily |
| 2104 | 9:30AM | 9:45AM | Daily |
| 2105 | 10:30AM | 10:45AM | Daily |
| 2106 | 11:30AM | 11:45AM | Daily |
| 2107 | 12:30PM | 12:45PM | Daily |
| 2108 | 1:30PM | 1:45PM | Daily |
| 2109 | 2:30PM | 2:45PM | Daily |
| 2110 | 3:30PM | 3:45PM | Daily |
| 2111 | 4:30PM | 4:45PM | Daily |
| 2112 | 5:30PM | 5:45PM | Daily |
| 2113 | 6:30PM | 6:45PM | Daily |

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# The questionable sailing of MV *Luta*

The people of the CNMI are wondering whatever happened to MV *Luta*.

Once upon a time, certain group of people brought up the idea of purchasing a cargo ship to use as the one source of transporting goods and other commodities to Rota. When this idea came about, the people of Rota were overwhelmed and elated, knowing this ship will provide their island needs. Little did they know that this was a scheme in the making. A Japanese investor was lured to invest millions of dollars on the ship. On the other side of the island of Saipan, a certain individual already had a plan to convince the Rota delegation to introduce a resolution to support their intent to borrow $400,000 from the CNMI treasury.

After a lot of kicking and pushing from this individual, finally the $400K was released to MV *Luta*. It was claimed that this loan was approved by the late governor Inos, but this remain to be proven if it's true or not.

After a long delay, the ship, MV *Luta* finally set sail for Rota, accompanied by the $400,000 taxpayer's money. Thereafter, the money disappeared into thin air. No one knows where the money went.

Despite an investment of over a million dollars from the Japanese investor, the ship, MV *Luta* never took off to serve the people of Rota.

Later, a lawsuit was filed against Victor Hocog and his relatives by the Japanese investor who was trying to recover his millions in investment that never took off.

So many months have passed, the Japanese investor suddenly came out on the print media announcing that he is dropping the lawsuit against Victor Hocog and relatives. This really surprised a lot of people.

Recently, Victor Hocog suddenly claimed and washed his hands saying,"I got nothing to do with the MV *Luta*." Are you surprised? No! Why? Because his name is in the lawsuit that was filed earlier.

Later, weeks followed, then the Office of the Attorney General announced in the print media that he is pursuing to recover the $400,000 taxpayer's money. This was a great news, but why did the OAG waited this long?

Questions that I want to ask Victor Hocog is, where is the money, the $400,000, and who benefited from it? Into whose bank account was the $400,000 deposited in? Who are the people authorized to withdraw money from the bank account? It is very obvious that we all know who has the money.

It is my understanding that the Office of the Public Auditor has completed an audit and made a recommendation for prosecution. Why is the OAG not pursuing the OPA recommendation?

To recover the $400,000 is one thing. It's another to go after the corrupt public officials who personally gained from the $400,000 taxpayer's money.

In conclusion. it is because of greed and deception that MV *Luta* never got off the ground and the people of Rota are left with so many questions and no answers. No accountability, not even from OAG or by the Office of the Public Auditor. Perhaps a Freedom of Information Act request is in order.

**Jack C. Muna**
*Koblerville, Saipan*

# Questions that still deserve answers

I was going to leave the KCHC and CHCC issue alone and wait to see what the CHCC board was going to do until I read a letter about "moving on and stopping the finger pointing." I respect everyone's opinion and hopefully it will be reciprocal but I beg to disagree with just letting this all go and moving on, like nothing ever happened. Yes, some may want to just let it go but there are others who want and even demand to see some accountability. Heck, regular folks are held accountable for all kinds of things, so why can't people in power be held accountable? To say that no one should be held accountable for something of the magnitude that adversely affected people's healthcare in what happened with the KCHC is ludicrous. Most people expect the government to make sure someone is held accountable and that nothing like this ever happens again in any form. The clinic is back in operation at their building but much of the resources have be taken, so the dilemma is only halfway resolved.

Yes, it was embarrassing for the KCHC to be locked and closed after Muña and CHCC board promised to work with KCHC for a smooth transition. They lied! There are some hard questions that still need to be answered as they are important oversight questions for accountability in assigning blame for the mistake(s), error, or omission that caused the fiasco. If the feds were willing to give KCHC sole authority over the grant, then certainly they would have to be willing to work with CHCC and KCHC in transferring the resources but that was never an option for Muña. So are we supposed to be stupid and just ignore this when us regular folks are held accountable for our oversights in all walks of life everyday and even be subjected to being fired, fines and jail time.

Did Muña or any board member ever ask or inform the feds (grant source) about what had taken place and for their input before taking action to lock the KCHC? To this day we have yet to hear anything the feds had to say about how this was handled.

What are the resources taken from KCHC that are being used now at CHCC, if they are even being used? Is there a plan to return the resources to the KCHC?

Why was Muña using KCHC's funding for CHCC bills not related to KCHC?

Does CHCC owe KCHC for the use of their funds and should be reimbursed?

What, if anything, is the CHCC board going to do about Muña's decision and ability to continue as the CEO, given the AG's opinion that the closing of KCHC could have been avoided?

Is there other evidence of Muña displaying retaliation and vindictiveness at CHCC in her relationship with staff, especially nurses and doctors?

Is Muña really moving CHCC forward under her leadership? There have been concerns for years that our hospital is just barely maintaining and can't keep doctors and basic things like blankets and pillows. Hopefully, the evaluation of Muña will address this critical question that will have a significant effect on the future of healthcare in the CNMI.

These are not questions to be washed under the rug, never to be asked and answered. The CHCC board failed in their due diligence in the KCHC matter as stated by the AG but, hopefully, they will perform more admirably in their evaluation of Muña.

**Ambrose M. Bennett**
*Kagman, Saipan*

## LAWMAKERS

*From Page 14*

rect, it was also unwise, because it set precedents that could allow future presidents to act unilaterally, with too little regard for countervailing arguments and public opinion. If it goes on, this abdication of responsibility will leave the U.S. weaker.

The Corker-Kaine approach is right to want Congress back in the game, but wrong to go about it like this.

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**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY(CPA)**
**CNMI GOVERNMENT**
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E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**
**RFP NO.: CPA-RFP-009-18**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Date of Issuance:** | **May 7, 2018** |
| **Pre-proposal Conference:** | **May 18, 2018 (2:00 p.m.)** |
| **Questions & Clarifications Due Date** | **May 25, 2018** |
| **Proposal Due Date:** | **May 31, 2018 (2:00 p.m.)** |

**TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR UNDERWATER INSPECTION, SURVEY & INVESTIGATION BAKER & CHARLIE DOCK, PORT OF SAIPAN, PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-009-18**

Notice is hereby given that the Commonwealth Ports Authority (Authority) is accepting sealed proposals, subject to the terms and conditions of this Request for Proposal (the "RFP"), and other contract provisions, for proposals from engineering consulting firms interested in Underwater Inspection and Survey services to assist the Authority implementation of corrosion preventive maintenance and other related projects. The Executive Director hereby determines that the use of an Invitation for Bid is neither practical nor advantageous to the Authority because the Authority wishes to acquire services and products that cannot be evaluate by cost alone (NMIAC §40-50-225(a)).

This RFP is issued pursuant to Chapter 40-50 of the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (the "NMIC"). Title 40, including chapter 40-50-225, Request for Proposals, is applicable to the process followed by the RFP.

The RFP Package is available beginning May 07, 2018 at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal to provide professional services for underwater inspection, survey and investigation (RFP-009-18). One (1) original and two (2) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than **2:00 p.m. Local Time, May 31, 2018**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. Proposals submitted by facsimile (fax) transmission will not be considered. Any proposals received after the proposal submittal deadline shall be returned to the proposer unopened.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted if sufficient justification exist that awarding the project would not be in the best interest of the CPA.

***FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY.***

***EDWARD B. MENDIOLA*** *Date*
*Acting Executive Director*



**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY(CPA)**
**CNMI GOVERNMENT**
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
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E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp



***REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS***
**PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-008-I8**

***PROCUREMENT/DELIVERY/INSTALLATION OF TWELVE (12) DIGITAL BENCH SCALES WITH DIGITAL DESTOP WEIGHT INDICATORS***

*The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for the procurement, delivery, and installation of 12 bench scales for the Saipan International Airport. The proposal package is available beginning May 04, 2018 at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport.*

*All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for Procurement/Delivery/Installation of twelve (12) Bench Scales (RFP-008-18). One (1) original and three (3) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than **4:00 p.m. Local Time, June 01, 2018**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. Proposals submitted by facsimile (fax) transmission will not be considered. Any proposals received after the proposal submittal deadline shall be returned to the proposer unopened.*

*The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for; (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement project would not be in the best interest of the CPA.*

*All proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.*

***FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY***

_____ _____
*EDWARD B. MENDIOLA* *DATE*
*Acting Executive Director*

# Business

# Trump says 'no folding' in trade negotiations with China

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—President Donald Trump says there has been "no folding" in his trade negotiations with China, as he addresses his efforts to help a Chinese telecommunications company that violated U.S. sanctions.

Trump tweeted on Wednesday, "Nothing has happened with ZTE except as it pertains to the larger trade deal."

He added that, "We have not seen China's demands yet." He also said: "There has been no folding as the media would love people to believe."

The White House said that Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin will lead talks Thursday and Friday with Chinese Vice Premier Liu He aimed at heading off a trade war between the world's two biggest economies.

Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross, U.S. Trade Rep. Robert Lighthizer, White House economic adviser Larry Kudlow and trade advisers Peter Navarro and Everett Eissenstat will also participate.

The Trump administration has proposed tariffs on up to $150 billion in Chinese products to punish Beijing for forcing American companies to turn over technology in exchange for access to the Chinese market. China has counterpunched by targeting $50 billion in U.S. products.

AP

President Donald Trump waves to Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev as he leaves following a visit to the White House in Washington, Wednesday, May 16, 2018.

Trump tweeted his support for ZTE earlier this week, putting the president at odds with the Commerce Department and its decision to impose trade restrictions on the company amid allegations it violated U.S. sanctions.

Trump has also drawn criticism from Democrats and Republicans that the company poses a national security risk. Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., questioned how the U.S. would be able to enforce the "cancellation" of the Iran deal "if we are not going to be enforcing it on companies in powerful countries that are helping Iran evade sanctions already."

Rubio said the Chinese telecom companies are "agents of the Chinese government. And they don't just steal national security secrets, they steal commercial secrets. They will use a ZTE phone to spy on any American company and steal their intellectual property."

## *China vows to defend its own interests in US trade talks*

**HONG KONG** (AP)—China said Thursday it doesn't want to see increased trade tensions with the U.S. as the two countries hold talks in Washington this week, but it's prepared for any outcome and will defend its own interests.

The comments by a Chinese Commerce Ministry spokesman came after President Donald Trump tweeted that there has been "no folding" in the discussions.

Spokesman Gao Feng also told reporters that China hopes the U.S. will take "concrete action" to resolve a case involving Chinese tech company ZTE, which Washington hit with a crippling ban on buying from U.S. suppliers after it violated U.S. sanctions.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and Chinese Vice Premier Liu He are leading talks in Washington on Thursday and Friday aimed at heading off a trade war between the world's two biggest economies.

"We do not want to see the escalation of the trade frictions between China and the U.S.," Gao said at a weekly briefing. "Of course we are also prepared for all possibilities."

The Trump administration has threatened to impose tariffs on up to $150 billion in Chinese imports to punish Beijing over trade practices requiring American companies to hand over technology in exchange for access to the Chinese market. China has counterpunched by targeting $50 billion in U.S. products.

ZTE's seven-year U.S. business ban, ordered last month, led the company to say it was ceasing operations because it cannot get the parts it needs for manufacturing telecommunications equipment and smart phones. Earlier this week, Trump surprised many by hinting in a tweet that he wanted to find a way to keep the company afloat.

The two countries are reportedly attempting a swap: Relief for ZTE in return for Beijing dropping plans to impose tariffs on U.S. farm products.

"We will resolutely defend our own interests and will not trade our core interests," Gao said, when asked about the reports.

# House OKs expansion of private care at VA, budget crisis fix

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—The House voted Wednesday to give veterans more freedom to see doctors outside the Veterans Affairs health system, a major shift aimed at reducing wait times and improving medical care despite the concerns of some Democrats who cast it as a risky step toward dismantling the struggling agency.

The plan seeks to fulfill President Donald Trump's promise to expand private care to veterans whenever they feel unhappy with VA health care.

The long-awaited bill would change how veterans receive their medical treatment by allowing them to go to a private physician when they felt government-run VA medical centers couldn't provide the care they needed, with the approval of a VA health provider. Veterans could access private care when they endured lengthy wait times, or the treatment was not what they had expected.

The VA would decide in many cases when a veteran sees an outside doctor, based on conditions it sets that determine what is inadequate care.

The White House said in a statement that Trump applauded passage of the bill and urged the Senate to send it to his desk for his signature by Memorial Day. "The President encourages members of the Senate to put the needs of our nation's veterans over partisan politics," it said.

The House passed the bill by a 347-70 vote, with the program to be implemented later next year as the VA works to add private doctors to its network of outside referrals.

The wide-ranging plan would avert a catastrophic shutdown of the VA's troubled Choice private-sector program, which would receive $5 billion to continue operating for another year before it is made a longer-term fixture at the VA. The program will run out of money as early as May 31, causing disruptions in care.

The $51 billion bill has the support of nearly 40 organizations, including The American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars. The program could be expanded based on veterans' demand for private services and when VA care is deemed inadequate. The VA would be able to determine how quickly the program grows.

Rep. Phil Roe, the chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, praised the measure as keeping "our promise to give veterans more choice in their health care."

The program could face escalating costs due to growing demand from veterans seeking the convenience of seeing private physicians. Some House Democrats warn the VA won't be able to handle the costs of the newly combined "community care" program that includes Choice and other VA programs of outside care, putting the VA at risk of unexpected budget shortfalls next year.

Rep. Tim Walz, the top Democrat on the Veterans Affairs Committee, cautioned that outsourcing more care to the private sector would lead to devastating cuts to VA hospitals, which many veterans see as best-suited to treat battlefield injury such as traumatic brain injury. "I am deeply concerned about the long-term health and stability of VA health care," he said.

House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., attacked the bill as failing to do enough to keep veterans in the VA, instead opening "the doors to VA privatization."

The bill builds on legislation passed in 2014 in response to a wait-time scandal at the Phoenix VA medical center, where some veterans died while waiting months for appointments. It comes as the VA is without a permanent leader after David Shulkin was ousted as VA secretary in March. Trump has yet to name a new secretary after his first nominee, Ronny Jackson, withdrew last month.

The legislation aims to steer more patients to the private sector to relieve pressure at VA hospitals, thus improving veterans care at VA facilities and with private providers alike. Patients could also access private walk-in clinics, such as MinuteClinics, to treat minor illnesses or injury if they used VA health care in the last two years.

The bill would create a presidentially appointed commission to review the closure of underperforming VA facilities, which House Democrats opposed when the plan was drafted in March. Democrats sought restrictions on the commission but were rebuffed by House Republicans and the White House.

## STOCK PORTFOLIO

## LEADING INDICATORS

| DOW | S&P | NASDAQ |
|---|---|---|
| 2,722.46 | 2,270.76 | 7,398.30 |
| +11.01 | +8.23 | +46.67 |
| +0.41% | 0.36% | +0.63% |

## EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Australian Dollar | 1.33 | Hong Kong Dollar | 7.85 | Russian Ruble | 61.75 |
| British Pound | 0.74 | Indian Rupee | 67.71 | Singapore Dollar | 1.34 |
| Canadian Dollar | 1.28 | Japanese Yen | 110.47 | South Korean Won | 1080.87 |
| Chinese Yuan | 6.36 | Malaysian Ringgit | 3.97 | Swiss Franc | 1 |
| Euro | 0.85 | New Zealand Dollar | 1.45 | Taiwan Dollar | 29.91 |
| | | Philippine Peso | 52.3 | Thailand Baht | 32.04 |

# Nation

## Quakes damage roads as ash spews from Hawaii volcano

**HONOLULU** (AP)—Earthquakes were damaging roads and buildings on Hawaii's Big Island on Wednesday as ash emissions streamed from Kilauea volcano.

The strongest shaking was recorded around 8:30 a.m., measured as a 4.4-magnitude earthquake. The floor of the summit crater has also dropped about three feet (90 centimeters), as the threat of a strong, explosive eruption at the top of the volcano loomed. The ground was deflating as the crater's lava levels fell, causing stress faults around the crater to move, resulting in the earthquakes. More were expected.

Ash spewed from the summit at Hawaii's Kilauea volcano, though emissions decreased from Tuesday.

There were occasional bursts of ash coming from the crater causing ash to fall downwind to several communities, though there were only trace amounts, said the Hawaiian Volcano Observatory. Ash plumes on Tuesday had spouted as high as 12,000 feet (3,657 meters) into the air, scientists said.

These plumes are separate from the lava eruptions happening roughly 25 miles (40 kilometers) away from summit, where about 20 lava fissures have destroyed more than two dozen homes and forced the evacuation of about 2,000 residents.

Dense, large rocks roughly two feet in diameter (60 centimeters) were found in a parking lot a few hundred yards away from Kilauea's summit crater, which reflect the "most energetic explosions yet observed and could reflect the onset of steam-driven explosive activity," the Hawaiian Volcano Observatory said in a statement, and continues to monitor activity.

Scientists say earthquakes may shake loose rocks underground and open up new tunnels for lava to flow.

Cracks formed on a highway near the entrance to Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, said the Hawaii Police Department. Much of the park remains closed.

"We're all safe, and I wish they'd open the park back up, but they have to keep it safe for everybody," said Ken McGilvray, an area resident. "We live on a volcano!"

Hawaii Gov. David Ige said the state is forming a joint task force that could handle mass evacuations of the Big Island's Puna district if lava from Kilauea volcano covers major roads and isolates the area.

Hawaii Army National Guard Brig. Gen. Kenneth Hara, the task force commander, said he's anticipating potentially having to evacuate about 1,000 people, based on what he's been told by Hawaii County. But he said some people may choose to stay behind because they are self-sufficient.

Hara said there are currently about 1,200 soldiers and nine UH-60 helicopters currently training on the Big Island. He may also request forces from the U.S. Pacific Command if needed.

On Tuesday, the volcano discharged ash because of rocks falling into the summit, U.S. Geological Survey geophysicist Mike Poland said.

"There is very little wind at the summit," he said. "The plume, it's not near as ashy as it was yesterday, and it's rising more or less vertically over the summit region."

Because of the ash, USGS scientists operated from a backup command center at the University of Hawaii at Hilo.

## Ethics director questions Trump's reimbursement to lawyer

**NEW YORK** (AP)—President Donald Trump revealed in his financial disclosure that he reimbursed personal attorney Michael Cohen as much as $250,000 for unspecified "expenses," with no mention of a $130,000 payment to porn actress Stormy Daniels to keep quiet about a sexual tryst she said they had.

The head of the nation's ethics office on Wednesday questioned why Trump didn't include this in his previous year's sworn disclosure and passed along his concerns to federal prosecutors.

"I am providing both reports to you because you may find the disclosure relevant to any inquiry you may be pursuing," David Apol, acting director of the Office of Government Ethics, wrote to Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein.

Apol wrote that he considers Trump's payment to Cohen to be a repayment on a loan and that it was required to be included in Trump's June 2017 disclosure.

But Trump attorney Rudy Giuliani told Fox News Channel's Laura Ingraham that he didn't think the repayment "had to be disclosed at all because I think it was an expenditure that he reimbursed."

He also the president was "fully aware" of his decision to reveal the fact that Trump had reimbursed Cohen in a previous Fox News appearance and "endorsed the strategy."

"We wouldn't do it without him," Giuliani said on "The Ingraham Angle." ''He's the client, after all, and has tremendous judgment about things like this. And I think it — that the OGE, the Office of Government Ethics, basically agreed with us that it had been fully disclosed."

"The fact is that that president disclosed everything that he could disclose. He can't disclose more than he knows. And we're very comfortable with it," he added.

But ethics experts say that if that payment was knowingly and willfully left out, Trump could be in violation of federal ethics laws.

"This is a big deal and unprecedented. No president has been previously subject to any referral by (Office of Government Ethics) to DOJ as a result of having failed to report an item on their public financial disclosure report," said Virginia Canter, a former ethics official in the Clinton and Obama White Houses who is now with the watchdog group Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington.

## Vegas shooting papers hint some may have encountered gunman

**LAS VEGAS** (AP)—Police documents released Wednesday about the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history included reports from at least two people who said a person they believed to be the gunman ranted in the days prior to last October's Las Vegas Strip attack about the federal government and gun control.

The claims by those people and others could not be verified because the names of all witnesses were blacked out in the 1,200 pages of police reports and accounts that the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department made public after losing court battles to keep them secret.

Police and the FBI have not determined a motive in the ongoing investigation. Authorities said they believe Stephen Paddock acted alone and the attack had no link to international terrorism. Law enforcement refused Wednesday to provide any additional information including refusing to say whether the reports were credible.

A jailed man whose gave a statement in November to police and the FBI recalled a man he believed to be Paddock telling him that Federal Emergency Management Agency "camps" set up after Hurricane Katrina in 2005 were "a dry run for law enforcement and military to start kickin' down doors and ... confiscating guns."

"Somebody has to wake up the American public and get them to arm themselves," the man said Paddock told him less than a month before the Oct. 1 shooting that killed 58 people and injured hundreds. "Sometimes sacrifices have to be made."

In a handwritten account, a woman said she overheard a man she later said was Paddock talking with another man at a Las Vegas restaurant just three days before the massacre. She told police that Paddock seemed angry about the 1990s standoffs at Waco, Texas, and Ruby Ridge in Idaho.

"At the time, I just thought 'strange guys' and I wanted to leave," said the woman.

The documents released Wednesday detailed terror, confusion and compassion among people helping the wounded after gunfire rained from a 32nd floor hotel room on a crowd of 22,000 people attending the Route 91 Harvest Festival concert on the Las Vegas Strip.

One woman told police she refused to leave her lifeless friend, whose eyes were still and lips turned blue, until a group of men picked her off the ground and guided her to a fence. One left a red bandanna on her friend's face.

A stagehand made a run for his pickup truck when he was suddenly surrounded by people begging for a ride away from the scene.


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**NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA)** is inviting qualified contractors to submit their qualifications and bid proposals for the **BENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT PERIMETER SECURITY FENCE REPLACEMENT, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AIP NO.: 3-69-0003-27/XX.**

One original and three copies of the Sealed Proposals will be received at the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, at Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at **2:00 PM, FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 2018**, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The Project, in general, consists of Rota International Airport Perimeter Security Fence Replacement with perimeter access road, all in accordance with the plans and specifications.

Bid proposal and contract documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the Commonwealth Ports Authority's Accounting Office, 2nd floor of the departure terminal, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **TWO HUNDRED U.S. DOLLARS ($200.00)** for each set of plan documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The Project is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within ninety (90) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for construction of the project shall be **THREE HUNDRED (300) CALENDAR DAYS**. Liquidated damages in the amount of **THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS PER CALENDAR DAYS ($300.00)** shall be assessed the contractor if the completion of the Project is delayed beyond the contract time without excuse.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the Rota Ports Manager's Office, Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport at **10:00 a.m., Friday, June 8, 2018** to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project.

Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, seven (7) days prior to the date designated above for the bid opening.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will berejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by CPA. The bidders are required to use the bid schedule form on the CD-Rom. It is the Contractors' responsibility to verify and ensure that the drawings are printed without distortion after printing which may affect sheet size and scale of the design details. Prints shall be the actual intended size of 24" by 36" as initially prepared by the Designer of Record.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by U.S. Treasury listed or CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than **TEN PERCENT (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

CPA reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP60 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All bidders shall comply with all Federal requirements under this Federally funded procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Veteran's Preference, Affirmative Action and Government wide Debarment and Suspension and Government wide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Further details on all Federal requirements are provided in the specifications.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
CPA Executive Director

Date: May 16, 2018

# Asia

## Seoul pushes for successful Trump-Kim talks as North warns

AP
A man watches a TV screen showing file footage of U.S. President Donald Trump, right, and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un during a news program at the Seoul Railway Station in Seoul, South Korea, Wednesday, May 16, 2018.

**SEOUL, South Korea** (AP)—South Korea said Thursday it's pushing to reset high-level talks with North Korea and will communicate closely with Washington and Pyongyang to increase the chances of a successful summit between President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un on resolving the standoff over the North's nuclear weapons.

The announcement by Seoul's presidential National Security Council came a day after North Korea threatened to scrap next month's historic meeting between Trump and Kim, saying it has no interest in a "one-sided" affair meant to pressure the North to abandon its nukes. The North also broke off a high-level meeting with South Korea to protest the U.S.-South Korean military exercises the North has long claimed are an invasion rehearsal.

The North's surprise announcement seemed to cool what had been an unusual flurry of outreach from a country that last year conducted a provocative series of weapons tests that had many fearing the region was on the edge of war. Analysts said it's unlikely that North Korea intends to scuttle all diplomacy. More likely, they said, is that it wants to gain leverage ahead of the talks between Kim and Trump, scheduled for June 12 in Singapore.

South Korea, which brokered the talks between Kim and Trump, will "closely mediate using multiple communication channels with the United States and with North Korea so that the North Korea-U.S. summit can proceed successfully," said the NSC after a meeting chaired by Chung Eui-yong, the top security adviser of South Korean President Moon Jae-in.

The NSC also urged the North to faithfully abide by the agreements reached between Moon and Kim in their summit last month, where they issued a vague vow on the "complete denuclearization" of their peninsula and pledged permanent peace. Senior officials from the two Koreas were to sit down at a border village on Wednesday to discuss how to implement their leaders' agreements to reduce military tensions along their heavily fortified border and improve overall ties before the North canceled the meeting.

In Washington, Trump said the U.S. hasn't been notified about the North Korean threat to cancel the summit.

"We haven't seen anything. We haven't heard anything. We will see what happens," he said.

White House spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders said the administration is "still hopeful" that the summit will take place, and that threats from North Korea to scrap the meeting were "something that we fully expected."

She said Trump is "ready for very tough negotiations," adding that "if they want to meet, we'll be ready and if they don't that's OK." She said if there is no meeting, the U.S. would "continue with the campaign of maximum pressure" against the North.

North Korean first vice foreign minister Kim Kye Gwan said in a statement carried by state media that "we are no longer interested in a negotiation that will be all about driving us into a corner and making a one-sided demand for us to give up our nukes and this would force us to reconsider whether we would accept the North Korea-U.S. summit meeting."

He criticized recent comments by Trump's top security adviser, John Bolton, and other U.S. officials who have said the North should follow the "Libyan model" of nuclear disarmament and provide a "complete, verifiable and irreversible dismantlement." He also took issue with U.S. views that the North should fully relinquish its biological and chemical weapons.

## Ex-PM lawyer says no docs seized in Malaysia police search

**KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia** (AP)—A seven-hour police search of former Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak's property as part of a money-laundering investigation being pushed by his successor did not find any incriminating documents, his lawyer said Thursday.

Najib's lawyer Harpal Singh Grewal told The Associated Press that police seized several boxes of personal possessions including handbags and clothing. He said the search of Najib's house and an upscale condominium in Kuala Lumpur that is occupied by his family was carried out under the anti-money laundering act.

New Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad, who pulled a stunning election victory last week that unseated Najib's National Front coalition after 60 years in power, reopened a probe into a state investment fund that is being investigated abroad. Najib started the fund in 2009 and U.S. investigators say at least $4.5 billion was stolen and laundered by Najib's associates, some of which landed in his bank account.

Mahathir said Wednesday that arrests will be made as soon as there is evidence and there'll be "no deal" for Najib.

Najib has denied any wrongdoing but the raids fueled speculation his arrest may be imminent. He and his wife were barred from traveling overseas.

"He was calm and of course upset, but the whole family cooperated," Grewal said of his client.

More than a dozen police vehicles arrived at Najib's house late Wednesday shortly after he returned home from prayers at a nearby mosque. Grewal said that Najib's house was filled with dozens of boxes as he had just moved out of the prime minister's residence.

Grewal said the search lasted nearly seven hours and he didn't know why there was still a large police presence outside Najib's house on Thursday.

Police gave no indication that Najib, 64, will be arrested soon but Grewal added Najib will cooperate if he is summoned for questioning.

Commercial crime director Amar Singh Ishar Singh told the media that police were searching for evidence at several locations. He declined to give details. Police officials did not comment.

Mahathir, 92, said an initial investigation showed the scale of wrongdoing by Najib's administration was more serious than expected.

He said he has met with ousted Attorney General Abdul Gani Patail, who said he had been preparing to file criminal charges against Najib when he was abruptly removed in 2015. Gani led an investigation by multiple agencies into the scandal at the time, which was later closed after Najib was cleared of wrongdoing.

Mahathir said the government will seek to retrieve billions of dollars laundered from the 1MDB state investment fund to repay government debts that have piled up over the years.

## ASIAN BRIEFS

### Spokesman: Duterte orders lifting of labor ban to Kuwait

**MANILA, Philippines** (AP)—Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte on Wednesday ordered the lifting of a ban on the deployment of Filipino workers to Kuwait after talks eased a dispute over the plight of Filipina housemaids in the oil-rich Arab nation, his spokesman said. Presidential spokesman Harry Roque said in a statement that Duterte ordered Labor Secretary Silvestre Bello III to lift the ban after the action was recommended by the Philippine special envoy to Kuwait. Kuwait expelled the Filipino ambassador and recalled its envoy to Manila at the height of the diplomatic crisis last month. It was not immediately clear when the ban would actually be lifted. Many Kuwait-bound Filipino workers affected by the ban have called for the lifting, saying their workplaces offer adequate protection from abuse, unlike vulnerable housemaids. Duterte banned the deployment of Filipino workers to Kuwait after the body of a Filipina housemaid was discovered in a freezer in a Kuwaiti home in February in what he said was the latest in a growing number of deaths and abuse of impoverished Filipina maids in the wealthy nation. The gruesome death of Filipina housemaid Joanna Demafelis focused attention on the plight of many Filipinos driven by poverty, unemployment and lack of opportunities at home to seek menial work abroad.

### Pakistan army kills militant wanted for slaying 100 Shiites

**QUETTA, Pakistan** (AP)—Pakistan's military says security forces have raided a militant hideout, triggering a shootout in which an intelligence officer and a notorious militant wanted for over 100 deaths of minority Shiites were killed along with two other suspects. The military says Wednesday's raid was carried out on a tip in Killi Almas village near Quetta, the capital of troubled Baluchistan province. It says three militants were killed, including Salman Badeni, a provincial commander of the sectarian Lashkar-e-Jhangvi group. It says a military intelligence officer also died during the intense firefight. The raid came weeks after Shiites sought protection from the army, saying they had lost thousands of people in militant attacks in recent years. Sunni extremists view Shiites as apostates.

### Highway overpass collapses in India, killing 18 people

**LUCKNOW, India** (AP)—A highway overpass being built in north India collapsed, killing 18 people when an immense concrete slab slammed down onto the crowded road below, officials said Wednesday. Five injured people were pulled from the wreckage, police said. Two were seriously hurt. Local media reports said four officials from the Uttar Pradesh state construction agency were suspended in the wake of the Tuesday collapse. Rescuers and crane operators worked through much of the night in the city of Varanasi to search for survivors and clear the wreckage, which had crushed cars, motorcycles and a bus. But fears that many more people were trapped were unfounded and the road was reopened Wednesday morning. The slab appeared to be at least 50 feet (15 meters) long and 6 feet (2 meters) wide. "There was sudden rumble and within seconds we saw" the vehicles crushed, resident Ramesh Kumar Singh said in a telelphone interview. "It took at least a minute for the people around to realize what exactly had happened." Most of those killed were in vehicles traveling beneath the overpass, said senior police officer P.V. Ramasastry.

# World

## Hamas says most slain Gaza protesters were its members

**JERUSALEM** (AP)—Most of the protesters killed this week by Israeli fire along the border with the Gaza Strip were members of Hamas, the militant group said Wednesday, an assertion that deepens the starkly different narratives on both sides over the deaths.

Israel, which has faced blistering international criticism over its response, is likely to latch on to the remarks to bolster its claims that Hamas has used the weekly border protests as cover to stage attacks.

But human rights groups say the identity of slain protesters, including a possible affiliation to a militant group, is irrelevant if they were unarmed and did not pose an immediate threat to the lives of soldiers when they were shot.

In an interview with Baladna TV, a private Palestinian news outlet that broadcasts via Facebook, senior Hamas official Salah Bardawil said 50 out of the nearly 60 protesters killed Monday were Hamas members, with the others being "from the people."

Bardawil did not elaborate on the nature of their membership in the group and his claim could not be independently verified. It was unclear if the protesters he was referring to were militants or civilian supporters of the Islamic group, which rules Gaza and opposes Israel's existence.

The affiliation may matter little to those who have deemed Israel's response to the protests to be heavy-handed.

AP

Palestinian Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh, chants slogans during his visit to the Gaza Strip's border with Israel, eastern Gaza City, Tuesday, May 15, 2018.

For Israel, it was enough to cement its narrative.

"It was clear to Israel and now it is clear to the whole world that there was no popular protest. This was an organized mob of terrorists organized by Hamas," said Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman Emmanuel Nahshon.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Israel had talied similar numbers to Hamas and "won't let those who call for our destruction to breach our borders and to threaten our communities."

In response to the uproar over his remarks, Bardawil later said in a statement that Israel was "legitimizing the killing of Palestinians just because they are Palestinians or just because they are Hamas, even if they were unarmed and defending their dignity and rights."

Organizers say the wave of border protests is meant in large part to break a decade-old blockade imposed by Israel and Egypt and pressure Israel to ease its restrictions. Since the Hamas-led protests began March 30, more than 110 Palestinians have been killed and more than 2,500 wounded by live fire, according to the Palestinian Health Ministry. Palestinian officials say the vast majority of the casualties have been unarmed protesters. One Israeli soldier has been wounded.

The weekly protests peaked on Monday when about 40,000 Gaza residents descended on the border area. As in previous demonstrations, smaller groups of protesters broke away and moved closer to the border fence, burning tires, throwing stones or hurling firebombs. Some tried to attack the border fence.

Israeli snipers, perched behind sand berms, opened fire from the other side of the fence, killing 59 Palestinians and wounding hundreds.

Images of the protesters being whisked away in stretchers amid the tear gas contrasted sharply Monday with jubilant scenes of the opening of the U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem by a high-powered American delegation and Israeli leaders. Hardly a mention was made of the border violence, only about an hour's drive away.

The Israeli army has defended its actions. It points to the violent history of Hamas, says there have been shootings and bombing attacks against its forces, and fears a mass border breach.

On Tuesday, the army released a video that appeared to show protesters detonating several explosions near the border. It also said its forces had killed a squad of Hamas gunmen who opened fire at troops.

Lt. Col. Jonathan Conricus, a military spokesman, said 14 of those killed Monday were actively involved in carrying out attacks.

Omar Shakir, the local director for Human Rights Watch, said that under international law, Israel cannot use lethal force against unarmed protesters, regardless of their identity or possible affiliation with a militant group.

## EU chief lashes out at Trump amid new push to save Iran deal

**SOFIA, Bulgaria** (AP) — A top European Union official branded President Donald Trump selfish and capricious Wednesday as EU leaders met to count the likely economic damage U.S. policies might inflict on the bloc and to try to rescue the Iran nuclear deal.

In a striking rhetorical assault on the leader of Europe's biggest ally, EU Council President Donald Tusk said, given Trump's recent decisions, "someone could even think 'with friends like that, who needs enemies?'"

Trump has bewildered the Europeans by threatening to slap tariffs on EU steel and aluminum exports and reneging on an agreement to stop Iran from developing nuclear weapons, which the EU believes is vital to world security. Trump has also broken with a key international principle of Middle East peace efforts by moving the U.S. embassy in Israel to Jerusalem from Tel Aviv.

Tusk's remarks, made before he chaired a meeting in Bulgaria of the 28 leaders whose countries make up the world's biggest trading bloc, underscored the widening gulf in EU-U.S. relations.

Listing Europe's traditional challenges, ranging from the expanding power of China to the belligerence of Russia, Tusk said: "We are witnessing today a new phenomenon, the capricious assertiveness of the American administration."

"Frankly speaking, Europe should be grateful to President Trump because thanks to him we have got rid of all illusions. He has made us realize that if you need a helping hand, you will find one at the end of your arm," Tusk said.

At dinner talks in the Bulgarian capital of Sofia, EU leaders were briefed on possible incentives to keep Tehran in the nuclear agreement despite a key player like the U.S. pulling out. Trump's decision means that U.S. sanctions, held in check by a presidential veto until now, could soon hit Iran and European companies doing business there.

The options being considered include new credit lines for Iran, increased energy cooperation and the use of EU laws to block European companies from caving in to U.S. sanctions.

The leaders also planned to discuss Trump's steel and aluminum tariffs, which could be imposed on the EU after June 1. Trump says the tariffs are needed for national security reasons. Europe's leaders, most of whom govern nations that are NATO allies with the U.S., say security concerns simply are an excuse to break with the rules-based order of the World Trade Organization.

"It is absurd to even think that the EU could be a threat to the U.S. We need to bring back reality in this discussion," Tusk said.

Trump's decision to relocate the U.S. embassy to the contested city of Jerusalem will also be raised. Some EU leaders have made a direct link between the move and the killing of almost 60 Palestinians during protests on the Gaza border.

## More Chilean sex abuse victims speak up during pope summit

**VATICAN CITY** (AP)—Another group of Chilean church sex abuse victims is making its voice heard as the country's Catholic leadership meets with Pope Francis, demanding that the Vatican recognize crimes, cover-ups and the need for reparation.

A statement from six named victims of the Marist Brothers religious community—and other unnamed survivors of Marist assaults—was issued Wednesday on the second day of the emergency summit Francis convened with 34 Chilean bishops.

The scandal within the Marists, who operate schools in 79 countries, exploded in August when the community in Chile revealed that at least 14 minors had been abused by a brother. Another brother abused at least five more.

In their statement, the victims said the Marists were still covering up the crimes, and attacking the credibility of survivors. They vowed to speak out so that parents with children in Marist schools would know what happened to them.

"We insist that the Vatican modify its discourse and rather than talk about pain, forgiveness and sin, it must urgently recognize crimes, misdeeds and reparation, and put all the information it has in the hands of the civilian justice system," they said.

In a statement to The Associated Press late Wednesday, the Marists said that as soon as they received the accusations, superiors immediately removed the brothers from contact with minors, alerted Chilean prosecutors and offered victims psychological, legal and spiritual help. The community also launched a church investigation and asked the Vatican to remove the two brothers; a decision is pending.

Francis convened the Chilean church hierarchy in Rome after admitting he made "grave errors in judgment" about the case of a bishop, Juan Barros, accused by victims of Chile's most well-known predator priest of witnessing and ignoring their abuse.

Francis had strongly defended Barros during his January trip to Chile, and sent in two Vatican experts to investigate after realizing something was amiss.

The investigators took testimony from the main victims of the Rev. Fernando Karadima, who was Barros' superior. But the investigators also met with Marist victims and abuse victims of other priests in Chile, producing a 2,300-page dossier that is at the heart of this week's meetings in the Vatican.

It's unclear why Francis restricted the summit to Chilean bishops, since religious orders such as the Franciscans and Salesians, and communities such as the Marists operate somewhat independently of the diocesan bishop system, with their own superiors.

# Focus

AP

In this photo provided by the Daily Republic, Ina Rogers, center, walks to Solano County Superior Court in Fairfield, Calif., Wednesday, May 16, 2018, to face multiple charges of felony child abuse. Bail for a California mother of 10 children who officials say suffered long-term abuse was set at nearly $500,000 after the judge said she remains a danger to the kids. Prosecutors charged Rogers, 31, on Wednesday in Solano Superior Court with nine counts of felony child abuse, saying that she caused the children to be in a situation likely to produce great bodily injury and death. Her husband, Jonathan Allen, faces multiple charges of torture and felony child abuse. He has pleaded not guilty and remains in Solano County Jail on $5.2 million bail.

# DA: Children in California home were strangled, waterboarded

By JONATHAN J. COOPER and JANIE HAR
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**FAIRFIELD, Calif.** (AP)—Prosecutors allege in court documents filed Wednesday that the 10 children rescued from a Northern California home were punched, kicked, strangled, shot with a BB gun and subjected to waterboarding by their father and their mother did nothing to stop it.

The details of the alleged abuse were included in a motion to increase the bail of Ina Rogers, 31, who was charged with nine counts of felony child abuse Wednesday in Solano Superior Court. Rogers did not enter a plea, but has previously denied allegations her children were harmed. She also faces 1 count of child neglect involving all 10 children.

"On a continuous basis the children were getting punched, strangled, bitten, shot with weapons such as crossbows and bb guns, hit with weapons such as sticks and bats, subjected to 'waterboarding' and having scalding water poured on them," Solano County Deputy District Attorney Veronica Juarez wrote in the bail request.

Since announcing Monday that they had removed the children from the home where they say torture was carried out "for sadistic purposes," prosecutors have refused to discuss further details of the allegations against Rogers and her husband Jonathan Allen, 29. He has pleaded not guilty to nine counts of felony child abuse and seven counts of felony torture. He is being held on $5.2 million bail.

Records show the 10 children removed from the house March 31 are 6 months to 12 years old, but the documents do not specify which child suffered which injuries.

The motion states that when Fairfield Police arrived at the two-story house in a suburb 46 miles (74 kilometers) northeast of San Francisco on March 31, they found the children "huddled together on the living room floor" in a home littered with feces and trash.

AP

Toys and other items are strewn around one of the rooms of a home, Monday, May 14, 2018, where authorities removed 10 children and arrested their parents in Fairfield, Calif. Authorities removed the children living at the home on March 31 and placed them in protective custody after one of them ran away. Ina Rogers faces charges of child neglect and her husband, Jonathan Allen, has been charged with torture and child abuse. Ina Rogers denied the children were mistreated.

"The children appeared to be skittish and spoke with speech impediments," she wrote.

Juarez alleges Rogers assisted in the abuse and "dissuaded the children" from reporting their injuries, which included broken arms.

On Wednesday, Judge William J. Pendergast set bail at $495,000 for Rogers, saying she "may not be a danger to the public at large, but these charges make clear she is a danger to the children."

It's unclear whether any California government agencies had an opportunity to intervene sooner or knew of turmoil in the household.

Solano County court records show that Allen was charged with four felonies in 2011, including corporal injury, assault with a firearm and criminal threats in a case involving his wife, identified by her initials, I.R.

Prosecutors alleged Allen used a .22 caliber revolver in some of the crimes.

He pleaded no contest to corporal injury as part of a deal with prosecutors. He was sentenced to 180 days and three years of probation. Prosecutors dropped the other charges.

Rogers told reporters that she had one prior interaction with child welfare officials when her mother "had mentioned something" that prompted a home visit. Officials took pictures of the children and interviewed them individually, she said.

"Nothing was founded, my kids were placed back with me," she said.

Solano County's Child Welfare Services department officials did not immediately provide information on details about the visit or other interactions they may have had with members of the household.

Rogers says she home-schooled the children, but the Fairfield, California, home was not registered as a private school and neither were three prior addresses where the family lived in Fairfield and Vallejo, according to the California Department of Education.

California law requires children to be enrolled in public school unless they meet specific exemptions, such as documented attendance at a private school. Parents who teach their own children are required to register with the state, but the state does not approve, monitor or inspect them.

The Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District had no record that the students attended any school in the district, said Tim Goree, a district spokesman.

Police responding to a missing juvenile report found a home filled with rotted food and human and animal waste, Fairfield Lt. Greg Hurlbut said. Police removed the children and arrested Rogers on suspicion of neglect. She was released after posting $10,000 bail.

Stories about alleged abuse dating back years came out gradually in interviews with the children over the past six weeks, authorities said.

Rogers was taken into custody after the hearing. Her court-appointed attorney, Barry Newman, declined comment.

# Off The Wall

## OFFBEAT BRIEFS

### Domestic dispute in Germany: Man arguing with a parrot

**BERLIN** (AP)—Police were called to investigate a domestic disturbance in a southern German town—and found a man arguing with a parrot. A resident in Loerrach, near the Swiss border, called the emergency number Monday to report his concerns about loud shouting from a next-door apartment that had been going on for some time. Police said Tuesday that officers sent to the scene found there was a loud argument going on—but it was between a 22-year-old man and a parrot. The man told them he had been annoyed with the bird, which belonged to his girlfriend. The parrot responded to being shouted at with loud noises of its own. Police said it couldn't speak but could bark like a dog. Since no one was hurt, the officers left.

### Marriage proposal upstaged by 3-year-old's call of nature

**BAY CITY, Mich.** (AP)—A Michigan boy found a way to make his mark on the occasion of his mother's marriage proposal. Allyssa Anter said "yes" Saturday to the question popped by her boyfriend, Kevin Przytula. Video shows the bride-to-be and man on bended knee are blissfully unaware that right next to them, 3-year-old Owen Anter had dropped his pants to urinate in front of Bay City's Ring of Friendship sculpture. They were alerted to the pint-sized proposal crasher by the giggling videographer, Przytula's 11-year-old daughter, Kayleigh. Allyssa Anter says her son "stole the show," and acknowledges his potty training is a work in progress. The video was shared Monday by WNEM-TV and The Bay City Times.

### Estonian municipality put cannabis leaf on flag

**COPENHAGEN, Denmark** (AP)—The southern Estonian municipality of Kanepi has a cannabis leaf on its new flag—because that's what its name means in Estonian. Andrus Seeme, mayor for Kanepi's 2,500 souls, says a referendum was held in late 2017 and 80 percent picked the winning design—a silver cannabis leaf on a green shield—out of seven designs. Seeme said Wednesday the city council adopted it a day earlier. Kanepi chose a new flag after three municipalities merged into one following last year's administrative reform. Seeme said the leaf has been used as a heraldic symbol by local groups for decades and the new flag has met little opposition in Estonia, where cannabis is illegal.

### Iowa man says his dog shot him while they were playing

**FORT DODGE, Iowa** (AP)—With best friends like these, who needs enemies? An Iowa man says his dog inadvertently shot him while they were roughhousing Wednesday. Fifty-one-year-old Richard Remme, of Fort Dodge, told police he was playing with his dog, Balew, on the couch and tossed the dog off his lap. He says when the pit bull-Labrador mix bounded back up, he must have disabled the safety on the gun in his belly band and stepped on the trigger. The gun fired, striking one of Remme's legs. He was treated at a hospital and released later that day. Remme told The Messenger newspaper that Balew is a "big wuss" and lay down beside him and cried because he thought he had done something wrong.

### Museum to display mummified monkey found in air duct

**MINNEAPOLIS** (AP)—A mummified monkey that was found in the air ducts of a former department store in downtown Minneapolis last month is going on display. The Star Tribune reports that the Science Museum of Minnesota plans to display the monkey in its St. Paul lobby, which requires no admission fee. The remains were discovered last month in the air ducts of what used to be the flagship store for the Dayton's department store chain, which was owned by Minnesota Gov. Mark Dayton's family. Dayton recalled working at the store in the 1960s when one of the floors was transformed into a rainforest display, complete with live monkeys and birds. He said one monkey got loose and scurried into an air duct. It was not seen again.

### 'Joggling' record: Man sets mark for running while juggling

**BOSTON** (AP)—It won't land him a spot in the Olympics, but a Massachusetts college student has run one of the fastest miles while juggling—an endeavor called "joggling." Zach Prescott ran a 4 minute, 43.2 second-mile on Tuesday while juggling three lacrosse balls. The junior business student who is on Boston University's track and cross country squads told The Boston Globe it's all about focus and rhythm. Once he gets used to the speed when he's running, "you're pretty much just juggling in place." If verified, his time would beat the previous world record by .6 seconds. A Guinness World Records spokeswoman says the organization is aware of Prescott's feat and working to determine whether he beat the current record, set in 1986, a process than can take several months.

### Couple get up-close view of moose that stares through window

**MERRIMACK, N.H.** (AP)—A New Hampshire couple have gotten an up-close view of a moose that wandered into their yard, right up to their window. The couple caught the moose's surprise visit on video and posted it on YouTube, where it has received thousands of views since Tuesday morning. The video shows the moose nibbling leaves on a tree across the street outside the couple's Merrimack home and then walking up to the home and standing inches away from the camera. Resident Nichole DiVietro posted on Facebook it was her first time seeing a moose. She says she named the moose Mooshy, after her sister, Michelle, who recently died.

### Raccoon family drops through ceiling of Michigan home

**SHERIDAN TOWNSHIP, Mich.** (AP)—A family of raccoons created a chaotic scene when they fell through a ceiling and into the living room of a Michigan home. The Jackson Citizen Patriot reports that a homeowner in Sheridan Township sought help Friday after the raccoons fell from an attic. Police and firefighters easily picked up the four baby raccoons, but the mother eluded capture. She bit a responder's gloves before hiding in a closet. The Albion Department of Public Safety posted video of the response on its Facebook page. Police said in a statement that a dog catcher pole was used to collar the raccoon. No people or animals were injured in the incident. The raccoons were taken away and released into the wild.

# Science & Technology

## TECH Q & A: Clearing space on a nearly full hard drive

**Q: The hard drive on my wife's computer is almost full, even though she uses it mostly for e-mail. While looking for things to delete, I noticed that the Windows\Temp folder contains 180 gigabytes of data. Can I delete all the files in that folder?**

**A:** The "Temp" in the folder name stands for temporary, so most of these files aren't needed and can be deleted.

Delete the files this way: Completely shut down the PC at the end the day. When you restart the PC the following day, delete every Windows\Temp file that was created prior to the day you make the deletions. (To find the creation date, select the "view" heading in Windows Explorer, choose "details" and look at "date modified.") If the PC is still using a file, you won't be able to delete it.

Why has the PC accumulated 180 gigabytes worth of temporary files? Windows update installations and other operating system functions regularly add files to the Windows\Temp folder, where they remain until deleted. As a result, you should periodically run the Windows Disk Cleanup program, which will delete those unnecessary files (see tinyurl.com/ycg3ynqz for directions on running Disk Cleanup in Windows 7, 8.1 and 10.)

Alternatively, there's an easy way to have the Windows\Temp folder cleared automatically. Just type two lines of text into Windows (see tinyurl.com/y73yerzt). That will create the file "cleantemp.bat," which will automatically delete old temporary files each time the PC is started.

Don't wait too long to clear the Windows\Temp folder, because once the hard drive is completely full it may cause the PC to freeze. Why? The PC needs some hard drive space to act as a backup in case the PC's RAM (computer chip) memory is temporarily used up _ or it may not work.

**Q: I'd like quit using AOL Desktop Gold, the new PC-based software that's replaced earlier AOL programs. But I want to be able to move my AOL e-mail contacts to Gmail, and my AOL browser Favorites bookmarks to Google Chrome or Microsoft Internet Explorer. Is there a foolproof method for making these transitions?**

**A:** Moving AOL contacts to another e-mail system is easy. But moving bookmarks from the AOL browser to a different one has become more difficult because of recent software changes.

To move your contacts, first set up a new Gmail account (see tinyurl.com/y9aszxhh). Then go to the tutorial at tinyurl.com/ybwk-fr9h and use method three (export contacts) or method four (copy and paste contacts.) Either one will transfer your AOL contacts to Gmail.

Because AOL no longer provides an easy way export AOL bookmarks, you'll need to do it manually. To do so, use the AOL Desktop Gold browser to visit your favorite websites, then write down their actual Web addresses. Later, visit the same sites in the new browser, and bookmark each one. (If a website name is long or complex, you may want to copy it from the address line of the AOL browser, then paste it into the address line of your new browser. Then go to the site in the new browser and bookmark it.)

**By STEVE ALEXANDER**
Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

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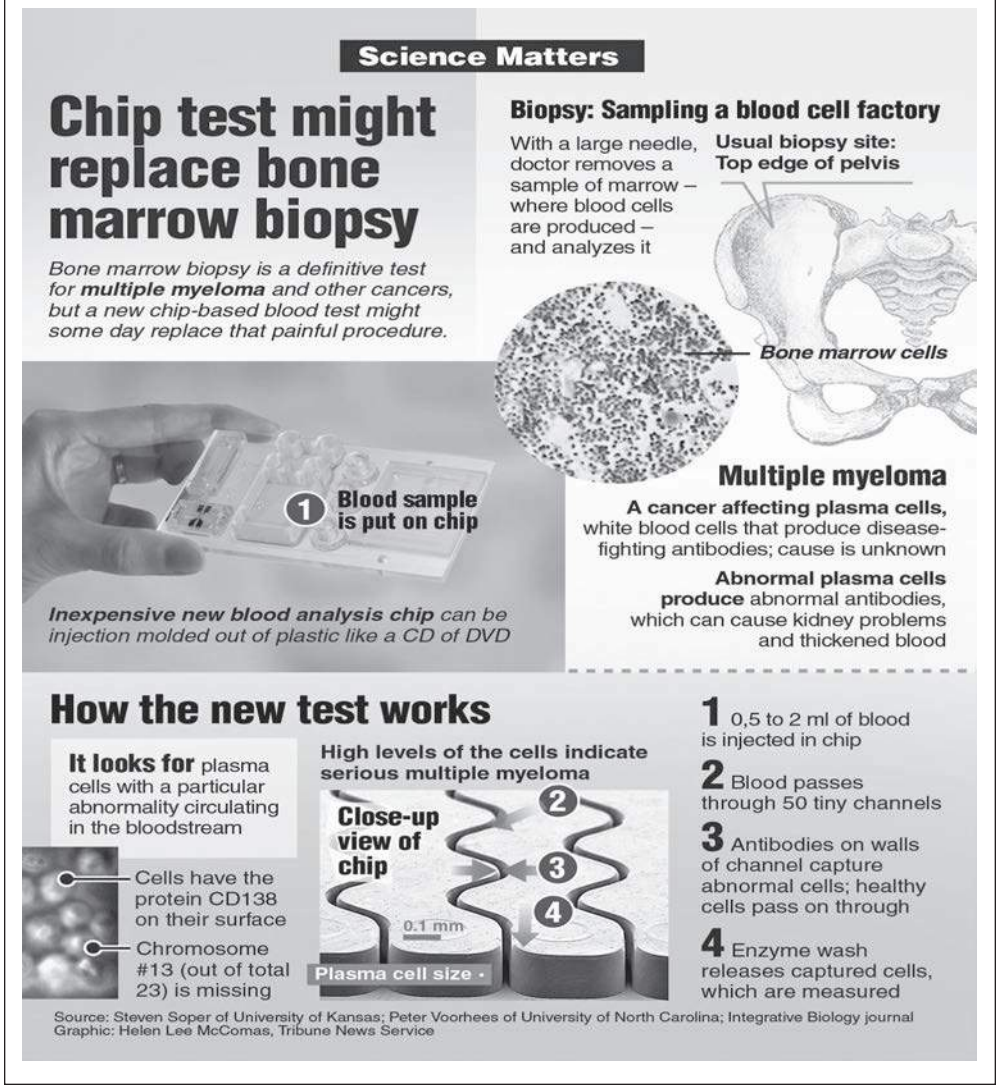

Science Matters
Chip test might replace bone marrow biopsy
Bone marrow biopsy is a definitive test for multiple myeloma and other cancers, but a new chip-based blood test might some day replace that painful procedure.
Biopsy: Sampling a blood cell factory
With a large needle, doctor removes a sample of marrow – where blood cells are produced – and analyzes it
Usual biopsy site: Top edge of pelvis
Bone marrow cells
1 Blood sample is put on chip
Inexpensive new blood analysis chip can be injected molded out of plastic like a CD of DVD
Multiple myeloma
A cancer affecting plasma cells, white blood cells that produce disease-fighting antibodies; cause is unknown
Abnormal plasma cells produce abnormal antibodies, which can cause kidney problems and thickened blood
How the new test works
It looks for plasma cells with a particular abnormality circulating in the bloodstream
Cells have the protein CD138 on their surface
Chromosome #13 (out of total 23) is missing
High levels of the cells indicate serious multiple myeloma
Close-up view of chip
0.1 mm
Plasma cell size
1 0,5 to 2 ml of blood is injected in chip
2 Blood passes through 50 tiny channels
3 Antibodies on walls of channel capture abnormal cells; healthy cells pass on through
4 Enzyme wash releases captured cells, which are measured
Source: Steven Soper of University of Kansas; Peter Voorhees of University of North Carolina; Integrative Biology journal
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas, Tribune News Service

# Life & Style

## Rapper T.I. claims wrongful arrest outside gated community

**ATLANTA** (AP)—A lawyer for T.I. says the Grammy-winning rapper never got to tell his side of the story to police before they arrested him after a pre-dawn attempt this week to enter his gated community near Atlanta.

T.I. was arrested early Wednesday after getting in an argument with a security guard, said Henry County Deputy Police Chief Mike Ireland. Media reports say the hip-hop artist, whose real name is Clifford Harris, had lost his key and the guard wouldn't let him into the complex.

Police said the 38-year-old artist was charged with disorderly conduct, public drunkenness and simple assault and then released on bail.

The rapper's attorney, Steve Sadow, issued a statement that his client had been "wrongfully arrested." Sadow said the community guard was asleep when his client arrived at the guardhouse and it took "some time to wake up the sleeping guard."

T.I.

Sadow said T.I. identified himself and sought entry, but the guard refused. The rapper contacted his wife Tameka "Tiny" Cottle, who confirmed that her husband should be allowed inside the community, according to his lawyer.

"The guard continued to refuse entry without justification," Sadow said in a statement, referring to T.I. as Tip. "Words were exchanged and apparently the guard and/or a supervisor called the police. When the police arrived, they were not interested in hearing Tip's side of the story and wrongfully chose to end the situation by arresting Tip."

Ireland said T.I. was arrested along with a friend.

T.I. is one of the biggest names in hip-hop, with multiple platinum-selling albums and singles, production credits and roles in films like "ATL" and "American Gangster."

He served about seven months in prison in 2009 after his arrest on federal gun charges.

He also spent about 10 months in federal prison on a probation violation in 2010 after he was arrested on drug charges in Los Angeles. The drug arrest violated his probation—he had been ordered not to commit a crime and not to illegally possess any controlled substances—and led to an 11-month prison sentence at an Arkansas prison.

Other than his arrest Wednesday, the rapper has stayed out of trouble in recent years. He's been active in community outreach, focusing on youth programs for boys and girls. He also has served as one of 38 advisers for new Atlanta mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms' first 100 days in office.

In April, T.I. was among thousands who marched in a rally marking the 50th anniversary of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination. The rapper also has taken part in a march in Atlanta against police-involved shooting deaths of African-Americans and in a protest against President Donald Trump in New York.

T.I. has expressed frustration over Trump's posts on Twitter, but said he intends to focus on doing things that "affect our communities in a positive light."

## For a prince's wedding, even the greenery has royal roots

**WINDSOR, England** (AP)—Even the foliage in the flower arrangements will have royal roots.

Philippa Craddock, the London florist selected by Meghan Markle and Prince Harry to design the blooms for their wedding ceremony, said Wednesday that ferns and branches of silver birch, English oak and beech from Windsor Great Park will be part of the greenery adorning the scenery at nearby St. George's Chapel.

An integral part at that, according to Craddock.

"The base is the foliage, that's where the designs start from, and then the flowers are complementary on top of that, but actually it's very much the foliage and shapes of the branches that will give us the shape of the designs," she told Britain's Press Association.

AP

Floral designer Philippa Craddock, and Keeper of the Gardens John Anderson are photographed in the Savill Garden, in Windsor Great Park, Windsor, England, Wednesday, May 16, 2018, as they look at leaves to be used in the floral displays at St George's Chapel.

Windsor Great Park is one of the public open spaces owned by Britain's monarch. Unsurprisingly, its 4,800 acres have quite the pedigree.

William the Conqueror hunted there in the 11th century when the park was a forest. King Charles II was the one who tamed the land in the late 17th century. Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, the husband she would forever mourn after his death at Windsor Castle, were devoted park patrons.

Harry's great-grandfather, King George VI, set in place the first of 60 oak trees that were planted in honor of his 1937 coronation. Another row of oaks honors Harry's grandfather, Prince Philip, who holds the title of park ranger. Still another celebrated Queen Elizabeth II's 80th birthday.

Kensington Palace previously revealed that roses, peonies and foxgloves also will be in the church arrangements at Saturday's wedding. Beyond that, Craddock and the garden keeper at Windsor Great Park, John Anderson, are staying respectfully discreet.

"There are moments where I've focused on it being another commission, so it's like working with any one of our couples, and of course you take a step back and you just realize the enormity of it," Craddock said. "It's a huge occasion and we're just hugely privileged."

## Ryan Reynolds: 'Deadpool 2' is about kindness (truly)

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—After being stuck in development for over a decade, "Deadpool" broke box-office records and shattered preconceived notions about what an R-rated superhero movie could do when it debuted in February 2016. Now the foul-mouthed mercenary is back with a sequel that's gearing up to play in the big leagues—the summer movie season, and it looks like it with be another hit for 20th Century Fox. Industry analysts say the film is tracking to earn at least $130 million in its first weekend in North American theaters.

Star and producer Ryan Reynolds spoke to The Associated Press about what to expect when Deadpool returns to theaters on Friday.

Remarks have been edited for clarity and brevity.

**AP: The first is so wild and jam-packed with everything. Did you hold anything back or save anything thinking that there would be a sequel?**

**REYNOLDS:** Oh my God we put everything out there. We had no pie in the sky notions that we would be guaranteed a sequel after this. But (screenwriters) Rhett (Reese) and Paul (Wernick) and I had been working together for, God, coming on eight years now. We worked on the first script together for years before it even got close to being greenlit and while shooting the first film, we were already coming up with a story for the second one. But at the time it wasn't something that was a reality; it was just something we loved. I think that at the end of the day the driving force behind "Deadpool" is that there are a great number of people who absolutely love every aspect of it. I think that's what translates to the audience. There is an authentic joy and love for what we're doing and we have so much fun doing it and you can't help but feel that through the screen.

**AP: Is there anything that is off-limits for Deadpool?**

Reynolds

**REYNOLDS:** Not really. To make a great rated-R comic book film you've definitely got to push the boundaries a little bit and we leave that to the editing process to figure out what we want to keep and what we don't. Tone is so critical in these movies and at the heart of "Deadpool" is always a very emotional story. You have to circle around that before you think about comedy bits or trying to incite reactions or that sort of thing. So "Deadpool 2" is really, at its core, about how one act of kindness can change the world. It's sort of a nature versus nurture story at its heart and that's critical to the film as a whole. Then you can model which sort of comedic set pieces you want around that. But at the end of the day it's got to be an engrossing story and that's the thing that we were most focused on from the get-go.

**AP: That's very sweet and sincere! And here I was thinking the most sincere thing about "Deadpool" was the Wikipedia page. Everything else from the logline to the marketing leans into the irreverence of it.**

**REYNOLDS:** Deadpool at his heart is sort of like a child. Like, yeah he can be vulgar, yeah he can act out but at its core there is a certain innocence to other aspects of him and I think that is something that's really important with the character. He sees the world through the prism of a child's eyes sometimes and that's also why he's tempestuous and obnoxious and misguided so much of the time too.

**AP: How are you feeling leading up to the release? With a summer date, it's playing in the big leagues now.**

**REYNOLDS:** For us that's been a dream come true as well. Having "Deadpool" positioned as a summer movie gives us a little more license to go a bit bigger, but at the same time our budgets are not comparable to some of the big Marvel movies. But necessity is the mother of invention so the less we have, the more creative we have to get. It has all the same principles and tenets as the first film which Dave Leitch loved and really wanted to honor, but at the same time there's a different flavor to it as well because Dave likes to keep major action in the lens as opposed to relying more on CGI.

It still has this kind of down and dirty feel, which I love, but it also has so many elements that I think are going to blow audiences away and surprise people. I'm super excited about it. Right now we're just focusing in on the marketing campaign which for "Deadpool" is always to a certain degree an extension of the film itself. We get to have as much fun with the marketing as we do with the actual shooting of the movie. I'm excited to put out some of the things we have ready to go in terms of the marketing.

**AP: From the studio behind "27 Dresses," right ?**

**REYNOLDS:** Absolutely, yeah. If you loved "Alvin and the Chipmunks," you are going to love "Deadpool."

**AP: Do you feel like this has to do better than the first to be a success?**

**REYNOLDS:** I don't really think about it like that. I'd be naive to not pay attention to some of the biz part of the showbiz but I know that the movie is made at a budget that makes it pretty reasonable for all parties involved and when we keep the budget down, the studio gives us a lot more play and leeway to do the things that we want to do and that's always great. So, no, I don't think it has to do better, necessarily.

# Wynn Resorts points to changes after founder's resignation

**LAS VEGAS** (AP)—The board of directors and CEO of Wynn Resorts on Wednesday sought to show shareholders they are working to strengthen the casino operator's corporate culture and moving it forward without its founder.

Shareholders gathered in Las Vegas for the company's annual meeting learned of the many corporate initiatives implemented since the resignation of founder Steve Wynn amid sexual misconduct allegations earlier this year. Shareholders asked CEO Matt Maddox about the company's project near Boston, operations in Macau and its political contributions, but none raised questions over the accusations, which Wynn has denied, or the ongoing internal investigation.

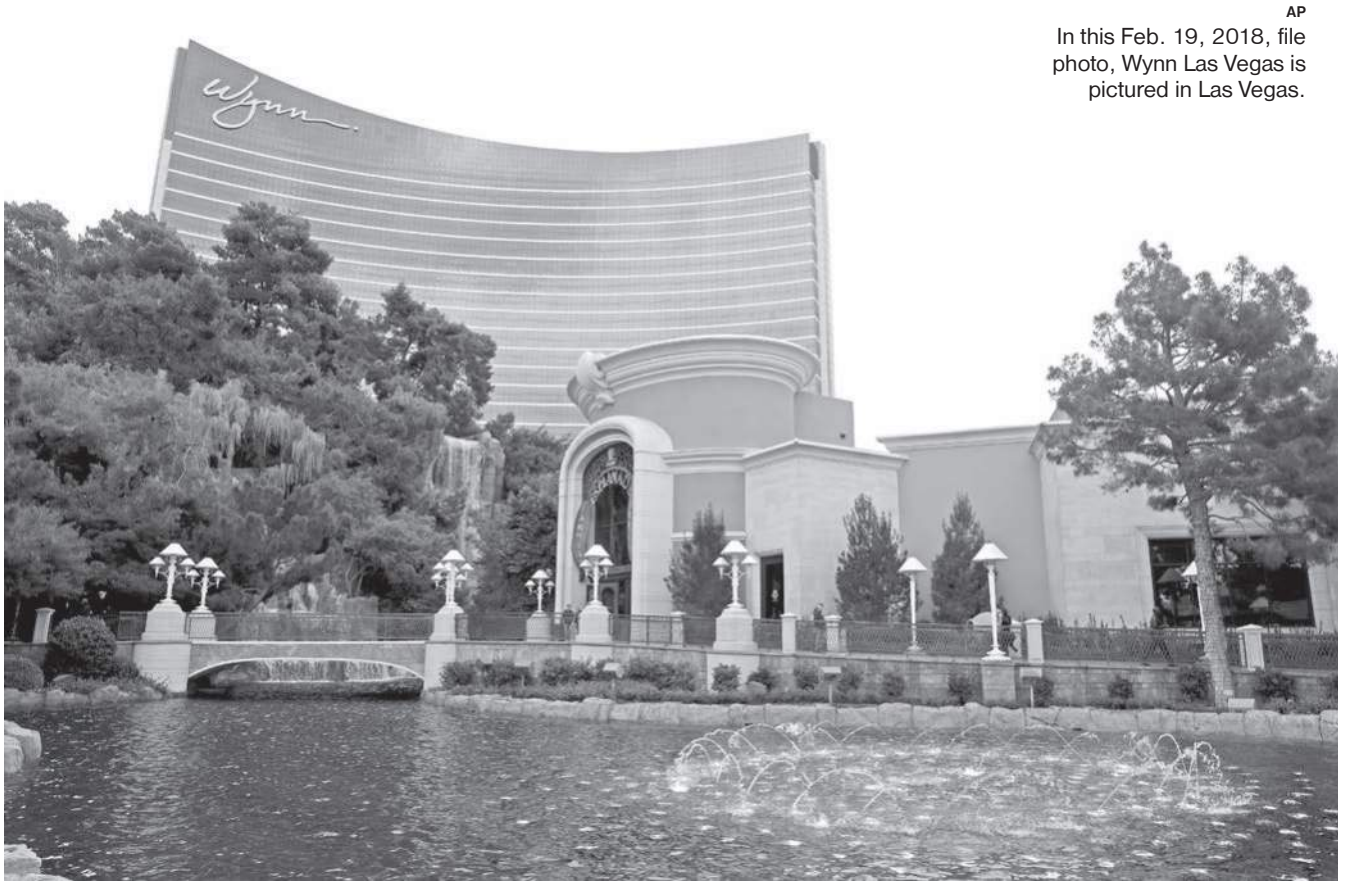
"Deep down, there is one simple truth that drives this company every day, it's the 25,000 people that work here," Maddox told investors. "That's what makes this company great because they are focused on excellence. They are focused on paying attention to the customer... and we are committed to making sure that that continues because our guests will return time and time again as long as that simple truth remains."

The initiatives described to shareholders included a new community and culture department, a pay equity study and a six-week paid parental leave policy. The three new female members of the board were also formally introduced.

Company founder Steve Wynn resigned as chairman and CEO after the Wall Street Journal reported in January that several women said he harassed or assaulted them and that one case led to a $7.5 million settlement with a manicurist formerly employed by the company. Other allegations and a settlement with a different employee have since surfaced.

Pat Mulroy, the chairwoman of the internal committee looking into the allegations, told shareholders 114 people have been interviewed and three million documents reviewed as part of the investigation. Mulroy said she expects the investigation to be finished later this year.

"Not only are we looking into the particulars of the allegations that have been raised, but we are also looking at this company with very much of a forward-looking glance," Mulroy told investors. "We are looking at the policies, procedures and protocols and hoping to create best-in-kind structures around preventing or avoiding future discrimination or harassment at this company."




AP
In this Feb. 19, 2018, file photo, Wynn Las Vegas is pictured in Las Vegas.

Maddox, responding to an investor's question, quickly quashed the rumored sale of the company's $2.5 billion casino under construction outside of Boston. He also talked about the ongoing project that's transforming a golf course in Las Vegas into a hotel, lagoon and convention space.

He politely responded with "OK. Thank you," to a request from a shareholder to express his gratitude to Steve Wynn.

"I would like to convey my thanks to him as a shareholder for over 10 years, and I've been coming to his resorts for almost 30 years," the man said. "The happiness, the joy, the delight of prosperity as a shareholder that I've enjoyed, I just want to convey that to him."

Groups of shareholders filed lawsuits against members of the board after the sexual misconduct allegations came to light, alleging breach of fiduciary duties. In addition, the company has drawn scrutiny from gambling regulators in Nevada and Massachusetts.

The makeup of the board has changed dramatically over the past three months. Directors Ray Irani and Robert Miller resigned, while John Hagenbuch withdrew his name from Wednesday's board election. Director J. Edward Virtue did not stand for re-election at the meeting, and Alvin Shoemaker has said he will not run for re-election after his current term expires next year.

The five men are named defendants in the lawsuits brought by shareholders. Hagenbuch faced a tough re-election after shareholders advisory firms recommended investors withheld their votes for him. Largest shareholder Elaine Wynn, Steve Wynn's ex-wife, earlier launched a campaign to urge investors to withhold votes for him.

# Ruth Bader Ginsburg documentary 'RBG' has box office muscle

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—The Ruth Bader Ginsburg documentary "RBG " is turning into a mini box office phenomenon. The film cracked the top 10 this weekend with $1.2 million from only 180 screens nationwide.

In just over two weeks of limited release it's made over $2.2 million

Exhibitor Relations box office analyst Jeff Bock says documentaries don't often enter the top 10 if they're not politically charged or about cuddly animals, noting that "RBG" is neither. He says that for a documentary, "RBG" is essentially doing blockbuster business.

The film from directors Julie Cohen and Betsy West gives an intimate peek at the life of the famed Supreme Court associate justice from her childhood to her present day pop culture icon status and even her impressive workout routine.

"RBG" expands to 330 screens on Friday.

# Cannes: Brazilians stress land plight of indigenous people

**CANNES, France** (AP)—Cast and crew members of the Brazilian film "The Dead and the Other" held up placards on the Cannes Film Festival red carpet Wednesday to protest what they called "the genocide" of indigenous people in Brazil.

The movie is based on the filmmakers' experience living for nearly a year in a village of Kraho people in north Brazil. It is playing in the Un Certain Regard section at Cannes.

Co-directors Joao Salaviza and Renee Nader Messora joined actor Ihjac Kraho in displaying the signs calling for the protection of indigenous lands. They were attending the premiere of "Dogman."

Brazilian politicians last year changed how land is to be demarcated for 900,000 aboriginal people. Activists maintain that without more protection, indigenous groups are being pushed off their land in violent disputes.

# Trampoline next door poses risk for sun-loving neighbor

DEAR ABBY: I have really nice neighbors, and we are always pleasant to each other. We put up a large above-ground pool in our backyard, and they put up a trampoline.

I would like to enjoy our pool (how to put this delicately?) without tan lines. I do not want to offend them or expose myself to their teenage son when he's jumping on their trampoline. Is there a tactful way to ask them to move the trampoline since there is no other way to stay discreet in my own backyard?

NO TAN LINES

**DEAR NO TAN LINES: Have you not heard about "tan through" fabrics? They were invented years ago to help women achieve a "summertime glow" without the risk of being reported for indecent exposure. You can find more information about this type of swimwear online by searching "no tan line swimsuit."**

**One caveat: Dermatologists recommend avoiding the sun to prevent skin cancers. When using these garments, make sure to use sunscreen underneath the swimsuit so you will achieve an all-over tan instead of a nasty all-over sunburn.**

**DEAR ABBY:** I recently discovered my wife was having an "emotional affair" with an also-married co-worker. She swears it wasn't physical, but their texts contain professions of love for each other and claims of "I can't wait to see you again." As I read them, my heart was pounding out of my chest, and I wasn't sure if I would survive the day.

My wife blames it on my emotional shortcomings. I agree that we have had issues. But I love her very much, and I don't want to see our marriage fail. No one forced her to have an affair. But she refuses to accept that. How can I get her to acknowledge that what she did has threatened our marriage and gutted me?

HURTING IN OKLAHOMA

**DEAR HURTING: Unless you and your wife are willing to deal with the issues that led to her having the emotional affair, she may continue to seek fulfillment elsewhere. Stop arguing and agree to go as a couple to a licensed marriage and family therapist. You both have work to do repairing your relationship, and doing so may take time and mediation.**

**DEAR ABBY:** Our boy-and-girl twins are celebrating another birthday soon. They will be 5 and want a joint party. They have mutual friends, as well as other, individual friends.

What's the best way to word an invitation suggesting that the boy guests bring only a gift for him, and the girl guests bring only a gift for her without sounding tacky? We don't want to overburden people who may feel obligated to bring something for each child. Frankly, they have been blessed materially, and are in need of very little.

PERPLEXED PARTY PLANNER

**DEAR PERPLEXED: Why not send separate invitations for each twin? It may save their friends' parents some confusion. And consider including "If you have questions or need further information, call me" on the invitations as well.**

*To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.*

## DEAR ABBY

**By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

MAYBE WE COULD GLUE DAD'S BINOCULARS BACK TOGETHER AND HE WOULDN'T EVEN NOTICE! YOU THINK?
IT DEPENDS. WAS THE CASING JUST CHIPPED A LITTLE, OR DID THE LENS ITSELF GET CRACKED?
WELL, MAYBE YOU'D BETTER LOOK AT IT.
DON'T SNEEZE.

## Garfield®

By Jim Davis

HEY, GARFIELD, WHAT SAY WE GO ON A DIET TOGETHER?
SURE!
I'LL MAKE SURE YOU ONLY EAT WHAT YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO!
OF COURSE!
I'LL WATCH YOU EVERY WAKING MINUTE!
AND I'LL SNEAK FOOD WHILE YOU'RE SLEEPING!
JIM DAVIS 5-18

## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
HMM? OH, I'M BRAINSTORMING BOOK IDEAS.
NO. I MEAN, YOU WERE HUMMING.
I WAS?
YEAH. IT'S REALLY DISTRACTING.
SORRY. WHAT WAS I HUMMING?
I THINK IT WAS "ITSY BITSY TEENY WEENY YELLOW POLKA DOT BIKINI."
YEP. YEP. THAT EXPLAINS THE DOODLE.

## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

## CROSSWORD

*By Eugene Sheffer*

**ACROSS**

1 LAPD alert
4 Halt
8 Over-confident
12 Singer Carly — Jepsen
13 Cleanse
14 Farm unit
15 Refrig-erator feature
17 River deposit
18 Harmo-nize
19 Blond shade
21 Capitol Hill VIP
22 Salt dis-penser
26 Sudden onrush
29 Quilters' get-together
30 "As I see it," to a texter
31 Big name in oil
32 Dawn goddess
33 Fuzzy image
34 "Exodus" hero
35 Upper limit
36 "Heavens to —!"
37 Member of the Society of Friends
39 Standard
40 Curator's focus
41 Not moving
45 Battleship color
48 Milliner
50 Greek vowel
51 Lamb alias
52 Brit. record label
53 Nerd's kin
54 Night light?
55 Poorly lit

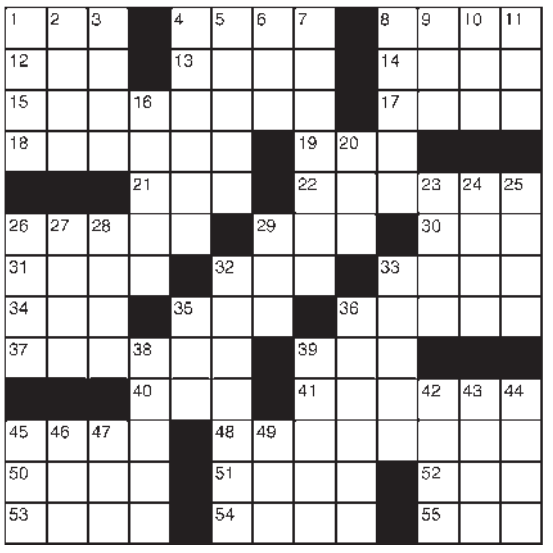
**DOWN**

1 Met solo
2 Treaty
3 Borscht base
4 Gershwin title river
5 Spoken for
6 Sugary suffix
7 Sentence parts
8 Malia's sister
9 Roman 1101
10 Web address
11 Retrieve
16 Require-ments
20 That girl
23 Bag-piper's wear
24 Flightless birds
25 Golfer McIlroy
26 Cager O'Neal, for short
27 Lima's land
28 Largest continent
29 Jury enclosure
32 Made of baked clay
33 Quotable Yogi
35 Mal de —
36 Gotham hero
38 White-water vessel
39 Barbecue site
42 Scratched (out)
43 Big rig
44 Decorate
45 Showbiz job
46 Fish eggs
47 Chowed down
49 Pub order

**Solution time: 25 mins.**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| E | L | S | A | | P | I | A | F | | G | I | N |
| G | O | E | R | | I | S | _ | E | | U | S | O |
| G | U | A | C | A | M | O | _ | E | | A | A | S |
| S | T | R | A | T | A | | | D | C | R | K | Y |
| | | | D | A | | B | I | S | O | N | | |
| L | U | G | E | | B | A | M | | H | E | W | N |
| E | A | U | | | C | S | U | | | R | A | N |
| O | R | A | N | | T | I | S | | C | I | N | E |
| | | N | O | A | H | S | | P | A | | | |
| P | R | A | W | N | | | S | O | L | D | E | R |
| R | E | C | | G | J | A | T | E | M | A | L | A |
| O | N | O | | E | N | V | Y | | E | D | A | M |
| M | O | S | | R | A | G | E | | D | E | N | S |

Yesterday's answer 5-18



**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Tina Fey, 48; George Strait, 66; Reggie Jackson, 72; Robert Morse, 87.

**Happy Birthday:** You'll crave change. Look before you leap to avoid backtracking. A chance to do something that will benefit the people or a cause you care about will be satisfying. Know what you want and turn what you do into an opportunity to change direction or solidify a position that can help you reach your goals. Your numbers are 7, 13, 19, 21, 28, 36, 49.

**ARIES** *(March 21-April 19):* Get out and become involved. If you stick too close to home, you'll end up facing emotional setbacks that can cause problems between someone you love and yourself. Put your energy into something constructive, not a senseless spat. ✪✪

**TAURUS** *(April 20-May 20):* Make your move and don't look back. Let your emotions guide you; you'll attract partners who are willing to help you turn your dream into a reality. Short trips or a business meeting will impact your life. ✪✪✪✪

**GEMINI** *(May 21-June 20):* Enthusiasm is great, but when it leads to making a hasty decision, you are better off thinking twice before you compromise your options. Learn from other people's experiences to avoid a costly mistake. Changes that require physical input are favored. ✪✪✪

**CANCER** *(June 21-July 22):* Share your feelings. Once you clear the air, you will be able to set new rules and standards that will make your life and your relationships with others better. A conscious effort to be thoughtful and thorough will be appreciated. ✪✪✪

**LEO** *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Don't feel you have to follow someone who is undergoing a lot of changes. Stability should be your goal. Put your energy and your effort into something that counts, not taking on someone else's burdens. Put yourself first. ✪✪✪

**VIRGO** *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Live and learn. Take note of what others do and say and size up what works for you and what doesn't. Do your own thing and you'll become a leader instead of a follower. Network, socialize and display your ideas. ✪✪✪✪

**LIBRA** *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Avoid criticism and complaints by taking care of your responsibilities before someone says something. Personal improvements can be made that will give you greater insight into how to make your life better and your relationships more compatible. ✪✪

**SCORPIO** *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Don't get angry; get busy. What you take on and how you go about finishing what you start will impress someone who can make a difference to your life and future prospects. A unique approach to love and life is favored. ✪✪✪✪✪

**SAGITTARIUS** *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Not everyone will be honest with you, but it will help if you are straightforward and leave little room for evasiveness, exaggeration or out-and-out fibbing. Use your intelligence to outsmart someone who is being difficult. ✪✪✪

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN** *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Show your strengths and work on your weaknesses. Know what you are capable of doing and focus on what you want to accomplish. Take a different approach to how you earn your living or do your job. You'll flourish. ✪✪✪

**AQUARIUS** *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Comparisons will turn into dissatisfaction, disappointment and costly ventures. Consider your attributes and use your skills to get ahead. Don't feel the need to emulate what someone else does. Be happy with who you are and what you have to offer. ✪✪✪

**PISCES** *(Feb. 19-March 20):* A change in the way you do things or with whom you hang out will improve your life. Let your intuition take over; it will lead to interesting opportunities and encounters. Kids and seniors will spark your imagination. ✪✪✪✪✪

**Birthday Baby:** You are flexible, precise and persistent. You are aggressive and protective.

*(To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.)*

## SUDOKU

**Conceptis Sudoku** *By Dave Green*

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | | 5 | | | | 2 | | 8 |
| | 8 | | | | | | 6 | |
| | | 3 | | | | 7 | | |
| | 4 | | 7 | | 8 | | 5 | |
| | 9 | | | | | | 4 | |
| | 3 | | 2 | | 1 | | 7 | |
| | | 4 | | | | 6 | | |
| | 5 | | | | | | 1 | |
| 7 | | 2 | | | | 4 | | 3 |

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 5/18

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

**Yesterday's Answer**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | 1 | 8 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 9 |
| 4 | 2 | 9 | 7 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 6 |
| 6 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 6 | 1 | 4 |
| 2 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 9 | 5 |
| 1 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 7 | 2 | 3 |
| 9 | 4 | 2 | 8 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 1 |
| 3 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 9 | 6 | 8 |
| 5 | 8 | 6 | 9 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 2 |

Difficulty Level ★★★ 5/17

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## WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

**LAS OLAS, FORT LAUDERDALE** **Solution: 9 letters**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| E | H | C | I | V | U | S | W | I | M | L | A | N | D | S |
| D | C | C | H | O | M | E | S | H | O | W | M | L | A | P |
| I | H | I | H | B | V | R | E | V | I | R | W | E | N | O |
| S | E | T | N | I | F | L | O | R | I | D | A | S | Z | H |
| R | R | O | L | E | M | S | O | N | N | Y | T | H | A | S |
| E | E | U | N | E | V | A | T | C | O | N | E | O | N | E |
| V | T | R | E | E | S | W | U | H | A | L | R | T | R | D |
| I | A | S | L | E | L | A | A | R | C | N | W | E | A | A |
| R | V | F | B | B | N | L | U | T | E | A | A | L | S | L |
| W | E | I | O | D | I | A | I | S | E | D | Y | L | D | G |
| A | R | N | R | H | T | G | I | C | V | R | S | A | N | R |
| V | N | E | C | S | A | U | C | R | U | O | T | B | E | E |
| E | W | A | E | A | R | E | A | I | D | L | R | A | T | V |
| S | E | R | A | C | T | I | O | N | T | O | O | R | X | E |
| B | S | T | R | A | N | A | H | A | N | Y | P | S | E | I |

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mdotts@dottslaw.law

Attorney for Administrator
Nicanor F. Norita

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF VISITACION RANGAMAR FLORES, Deceased.**

**Civil Action No.: 03-0228D**

**NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR DETERMINATION OF HEIRS**

**TO: ALL HEIRS OF VISITACION RANGAMAR FLORES, DECEASED**

NOTICE is hereby given that a Petition for Determination of Heirs for the ESTATE OF VISTACION RANGAMAR FLORES (DECEASED) was filed in the above-entitled Court. A hearing has been set for the above-entitled matter. The hearing would normally be held in the Commonwealth Superior Court, located at the Susupe, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. However, due to issues with the Court House the hearing will be held at the Multi-Purpose Center, Susupe, Saipan, at **9:00 a.m., on May 24, 2018.**

You may obtain a copy of the Petition from the Administrator's counsel during normal business hours. You may also obtain a copy from the Court. If you believe you are an heir, and if you are not listed on the Petition, it is very important for you to appear at the hearing and assert your claim as an heir.

Dated this 4th day of May, 2018.

Michael W. Dotts
Counsel for Administrator

Lunesa Borja/Melvin Yamit
P.O. Box 504122
483-0328
Pro Se

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

| | |
|---|---|
| In The Matter Of The Adoption Of: Minor Child By: TASK Petitioner(s) Lunesa Borja/ Melvin Yamit | FCD-AD-CIVIL ACTION NO. 18-0201 **NOTICE OF HEARING** |

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on 2nd day of July 2018 at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom 217A, before the Honorable Judge Kim-Tenorio.

Dated this 15th day of May, 2018.
/s/
By: Patrick V. Diaz,
Deputy Clerk of Court

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# Red Sox avoid sweep with victory over Athletics

BOSTON (AP)—Xander Bogaerts loves watching from the on-deck circle and learning what J.D. Martinez does at the plate.

Bogaerts' start this season has been quite impressive, too.

The Red Sox shortstop hit a three-run homer, Martinez added a two-run shot and Boston avoided its first series sweep this season with a 6-4 victory over the Oakland Athletics on Wednesday night.

"It's pretty impressive what he does when you're behind looking at him," Bogaerts said. "Normally I'm a guy who gets to the on-deck circle a little bit later. I've got to get there early if he swings at the first pitch and gets a hit. He hits some bombs on the first pitch."

Signed as free agent to a $110-million, five-year contract during spring training, Martinez is hitting mainly in the cleanup spot and has a .344 average with 12 homers and 36 RBI. Bogaerts, who spent some time on the disabled list with an injured left ankle, is batting .306 with five homers and 21 RBI.

Chris Sale (4-1) gave up just two runs and two hits in five innings, striking out nine and walking four -- his most bases on balls since also allowing four on August 31, 2016.

### Rangers 5, Mariners 1

In Seattle, Bartolo Colon laughed off having Jean Segura's line drive hit him in the stomach, allowing four hits in 7 2/3 shutout innings and giving the Texas Rangers a win over the Seattle Mariners .

Colon (2-1), who turns 45 on May 24, struck out two, walked none and threw 71 of 96 pitches for strikes.

Delino DeShields gave Texas the lead with a two-out RBI double in the eighth inning that scored Isiah Kiner-Falefa, who had singled off James Pazos (1-1). The Rangers added four more in the ninth, all after Ryon Healy's two-out error.

### Phillies 4, Orioles 1

In Baltimore, Nick Pivetta (3-2) tied a career-high with 11 strikeouts, and Cesar Hernandez homered as Philadelphia (24-16) climbed eight games over .500 for the first time since the end of the 2011 season.

Odubel Herrera singled in the first and extended his on-base streak to 42 games for the Phillies, who have won six of seven.

Andrew Cashner (1-5) allowed three runs, five hits and three walks over 5 2/3 innings. He has not won since April 5. Baltimore (13-29) has the second-worst record in the AL.

### Pirates 3, White Sox 2

In Pittsburgh, pinch-hitter Josh Bell singled off Joakim Soria (0-2) to break a 2-2 tie in the seventh.

Pittsburgh has won seven of eight and improved to 10-2 in interleague play this season. Chicago has lost eight of nine and 13 of 15. A major league-worst 10-29, the White Sox have matched their worst start since 1948.

Rookie Edgar Santana (1-0) allowed one hit in 1 1/3 scoreless innings for his first major league win, and Felipe Vazquez remained perfect in eight save opportunities.

### Indians 6, Tigers 0

In Detroit, Trevor Bauer (3-3) struck out 10 in eight innings and allowed four hits as Cleveland avoided a three-game sweep.

Ryan Carpenter (0-1) gave up six run—five earned—and seven hits in five innings, and his throwing error to first on a comebacker allowed the first run to score. Tigers center fielder JaCoby Jones left in the third with a left hip injury.

Michael Brantley had three hits, including a solo homer.

### Cardinals 7, Twins 5

In Minneapolis, Dexter Fowler reached base four times and drove in two runs in his return to the lineup. Matt Carpenter had three hits after being demoted to seventh in the batting order, and Tommy Pham added two hits, including his eighth homer of the year.

Jordan Hicks (2-1) pitched a scoreless inning, and Bud Norris got five outs for his ninth save.

### Blue Jays 12, Mets 1

In New York, J.A. Happ (5-3) reached three times and allowed only two runners over seven innings, and Toronto got its first road victory at the Mets after going 0-12.

Happ struck out 10 while pitching two-hit ball. The left-hander also singled twice and walked in his first multihit game since 2011, when he had two hits for Houston at Citi Field.

New York's Brandon Nimmo homered off Danny Barnes with two outs in the ninth and Wilmer Flores added a double before Barnes finished a four-hitter.

### Rays 5, Royals 3

In Kansas City, C.J. Cron homered and scored three runs, and Tampa Bay completed a three-game sweep of the woeful Royals.

Cron extended his on-base streak to 22 games when he was hit by a pitch from Jason Hammel (0-5) in a three-run first that included Brad Miller's RBI groundout and Adeiny Hechavarria's two-run single.

Matt Andriese (1-1) allowed three hits in three scoreless innings, and Alex Colome pitched a one-hit ninth for his ninth save.

### Brewers 8, Diamondbacks 2

In Phoenix, Travis Shaw, Domingo Santana, Christian Yelich and Tyler Saladino homered in the first four innings off Matt Koch (2-0), who allowed all eight runs.

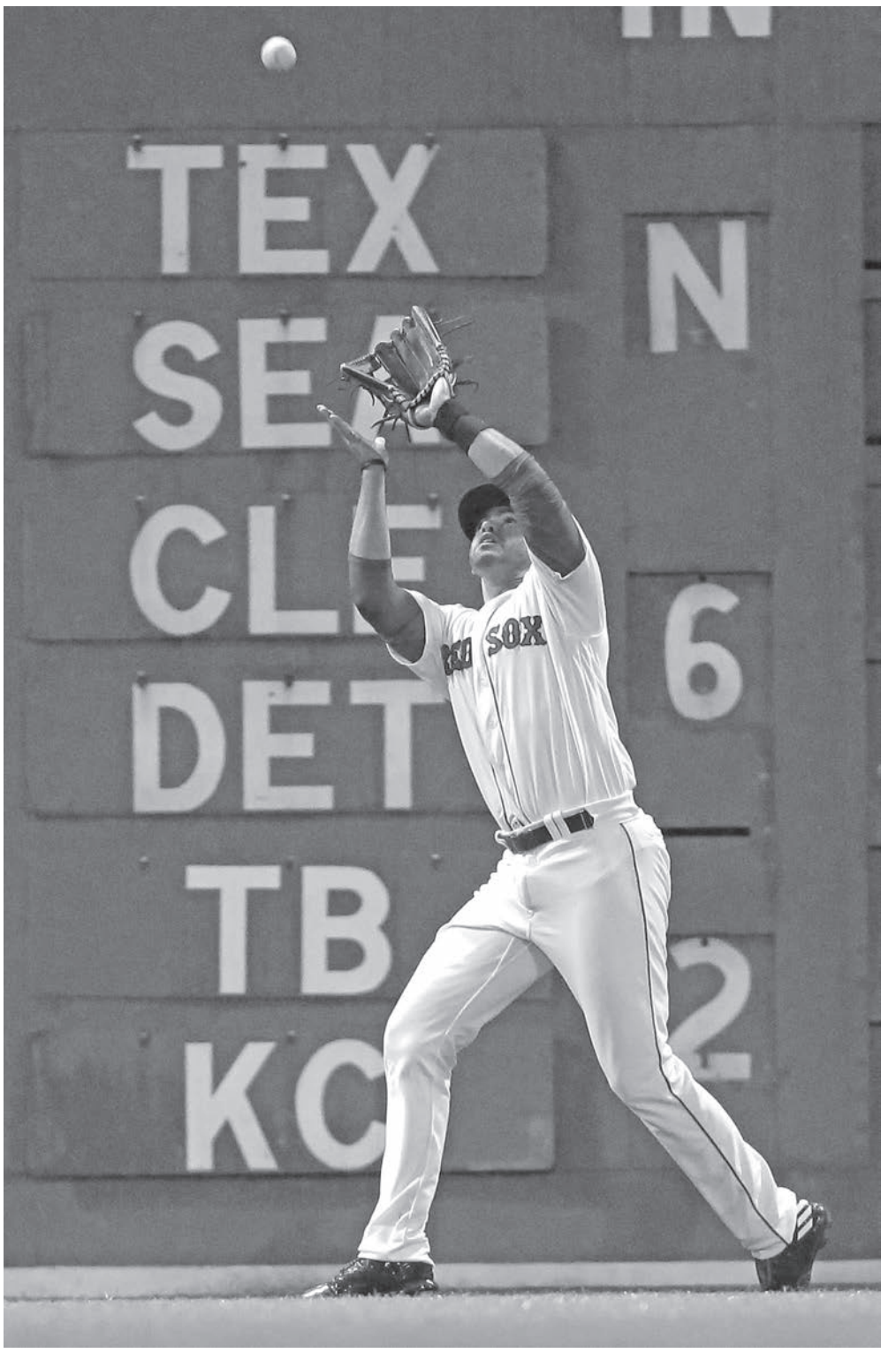
Brandon Woodruff (2-0) gave up one hit in five innings, Daniel Descalso's two-run homer in the first.

Milwaukee has won three of four, outscoring opponents 23-9. Arizona finished a 1-6 homestand and has lost seven of eight heading into a nine-game trip.

### Reds 6, Giants 3

In San Francisco, Scooter Gennett homered a half-inning after the second baseman saved two runs with a diving catch on a difficult popup, helping Cincinnati avoid a sweep. Adam Duvall hit a three-run homer in the first, and Jared Hughes (2-2) pitched two scoreless innings as Cincinnati won for the seventh time in nine games.

Staked to a 4-0 first-inning lead, Reds Matt Harvey allowed three runs, seven hits and four walks in four innings.




AP

Boston Red Sox's J.D. Martinez catches a fly ball hit by Oakland Athletics' Jed Lowrie during the first inning of a baseball game at Fenway Park in Boston, Wednesday, May 16, 2018.

# Klinsmann thinks Germany won't repeat as World Cup champs

**COSTA MESA, Calif.** (AP)—Jurgen Klinsmann believes that Germany's 2018 World Cup squad is every bit as good as the one that hoisted the trophy four years ago, but he fears that Die Mannschaft will still find it "almost impossible" to repeat as champions this summer in Russia.

Klinsmann was one of the world's premier scorers when he helped Germany win the 1990 World Cup and 1996 European Championship. He later coached his homeland to a semifinal berth as World Cup hosts in 2006, so he knows firsthand how difficult it is to win a major title once, let alone twice in a row.

"The amount of drive and hunger and willingness to suffer to win the World Cup is unthinkable," Klinsmann said in an interview with Yahoo Sports. "For any team that won the World Cup, they go through so much stress, through so much work and tension and exhaustion and all those things, that to repeat that is almost impossible."

History backs him up. In 20 previous editions of the competition, only twice has the same team won consecutive tournaments: Italy in 1934 and 1938, and Pele-led Brazil in 1958 and 1962.

"Yes, Pele did it," Klinsmann said. "But it's going to be so difficult for Germany to reinstall that drive —even if the team is as talented as it was four years ago, with another wave of fresh young players and a coaching staff that's amazing—all those things."

Still, the admittedly biased Klinsmann is tipping four-time world champion Germany to return to the final, along with Lionel Messi's Argentina, on July 15 in Moscow. Those same foes contested a tight 2014 title match, with Germany emerging victorious after Mario Gotze scored the lone goal of the match with seven minutes left in extra time.

The outcome could have been different had Albiceleste forward Gonzalo Higuaín buried a scoring opportunity early in the game.

"How many times do you think Higuaín has thought about that chance that he had in the first 20 minutes against Manuel Neuer?" Klinsmann said. "For four years he's thinking if I had put that in, we're up one-nil and we win the game. That's where I say if Argentina develops this almost brutal hunger, then maybe it is Messi's time."

Argentina, however, is just one of several threats. Spain is looking to make a deep run after the 2010 winners were eliminated in the group stage last time around. Brazil, humiliated 7-1 by Germany on home soil in the semis four years ago, would surely relish the chance for revenge.

"Brazil has to live with that 7-1," Klinsmann said. "But they can also shake it off and use it."

Meantime, Germany must fight complacency. And coach Joachim Loew, who served as Klinsmann's top assistant in 2006, must ensure that he doesn't allow sentiment to cloud his roster and lineup decisions. So far that doesn't seem to be an issue; Gotze didn't make Loew's preliminary list for next month's tourney.

Klinsmann suggested that in 1994, such loyalty could have been a factor when Germany's last repeat bid ended with a quarterfinal loss to Bulgaria.

"We transitioned the team too late," Klinsmann said. "There were players from that 1990 team that maybe shouldn't have been there anymore. And that's also human, for the coach to give those guys the benefit of the doubt."

Still, he never forgot what manager Berti Vogts said to his players afterward.

"The big point Bertie made," Klinsmann said, "was that we didn't lose it because we didn't have the quality."

# Rockets rebound, rout Warriors to even up series

**HOUSTON** (AP)—James Harden and Eric Gordon each scored 27 points to lead a balanced attack and the Houston Rockets routed the Golden State Warriors 127-105 on Wednesday night to even the Western Conference finals at one game apiece.

The Rockets didn't trail after the first quarter and led by double digits for most of the night. They head to Oakland, California for Game 3 on Sunday night feeling much better after rebounding from a deflating 119-106 loss in the series opener.

P.J. Tucker added a playoff career-high 22 and Trevor Ariza had 19 as both bounced back after struggling in Game 1. Tucker had just one point in that game and Ariza scored eight, but was limited on defense after collecting his fifth foul early in the third quarter.

Kevin Durant had 38 points after scoring 37 in the opener, but Stephen Curry and Klay Thompson combined for just 24 points after the pair went for 46 in Game 1.

Houston wasn't able to slow down Durant, but did a much better job of limiting open 3-pointers by Thompson and Curry, and the two made just 3 of 12 attempts.

The Warriors made three free throws to get within 11 early in the fourth quarter before the Rockets scored the next 11 points, with 3s from Gordon, Tucker and Harden to make it 111-89 with about 6 1/2 minutes to play.

Durant made a basket after that, but Houston scored the next eight points to extend the lead to 119-91 with about five minutes left.

The Warriors got frustrated in that stretch, with Durant getting a technical for shoving Harden in the back and Draymond Green pushing Ariza out of bounds seconds later. It was then that coach Steve Kerr sent all of his starters to the bench for good.

Gordon came off the bench to make six 3-pointers, Tucker tied a playoff best with five and Harden added three.

Houston avoided losing consecutive games for the first time this postseason and the Warriors lost in the second game of a playoff series for the first time since the 2015 NBA Finals, snapping a 10-game winning streak in such games.

AP

Houston Rockets forward Trevor Ariza (1) scores past Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry (30) in the first half during Game 2 of the NBA Western Conference Finals, Wednesday, May 16, 2018, in Houston.

Houston led by as many as 19 in the first half and was up 64-50 at halftime. The Warriors cut it to 74-64 with five quick points from Durant, but the Rockets opened it back up to 89-72 when Gordon made an off-balance layup before crashing to the court while being fouled and made the free throw.

The Rockets were up by 16 to start the fourth quarter but Golden State got within 98-86 with about 10 minutes left. Curry had five points in that span, including his first 3 after missing his first six attempts of the night.

Curry finished with 16 points and Thompson was 3 for 11 for his eight points.

Meanwhile, Durant had his 19th straight playoff game with at least 20 points. Curry made one 3-pointer to extend his NBA playoff record of 81 straight playoff games with at least one 3-pointer. Durant and Curry were Golden State's only players with more than 10 points.

Houston improved to 8-0 this postseason when leading after three quarters. The Rockets made 16 of 42 3-point attempts.

After Game 3, the teams will play Game 4 on Tuesday night in Oakland before returning to Houston for Game 5 on Thursday.

# *Harden, James, and Davis vie for MVP award*

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Houston's James Harden, Cleveland's LeBron James and Anthony Davis of New Orleans are the finalists for the NBA's MVP award.

Harden, who led the league in scoring, has twice been a runner-up for the award, including last year when Russell Westbrook won. James has won the MVP award four times.

The three finalists for the individual awards were announced Wednesday. The winners will be announced on June 25 in Santa Monica, California during the NBA Awards show.

Davis was also a finalist for Defensive Player of the Year, along with Utah's Rudy Gobert and Philadelphia center Joel Embiid.

The other finalists:

**Rookie of the Year**
Donovan Mitchell, Utah
Ben Simmons, Philadelphia
Jayson Tatum, Boston

**Coach of the Year**
Dwane Casey, Toronto
Quin Snyder, Utah
Brad Stevens, Boston

**Sixth Man**
Eric Gordon, Houston
Fred VanVleet, Toronto
Lou Williams, Clippers

**Most Improved Player**
Clint Capela, Houston
Spencer Dinwiddie, Brooklyn
Victor Oladipo, Indiana

Meanwhile, a person familiar with the search tells The Associated Press that the Milwaukee Bucks have reached an agreement with Mike Budenholzer to become the team's next coach.

The 2015 NBA Coach of the Year will replace Joe Prunty, the former assistant who went 21-16 in the regular season after replacing the fired Jason Kidd in late January.

The person confirmed the agreement with the former Atlanta Hawks coach on Wednesday. The person requested anonymity because the team has not made an official announcement.

The deal was first reported by ESPN.

The Bucks lost to Boston in seven games in the first round of the playoffs.

Budenholzer went 213-197 in five seasons with the Hawks, leading them to a franchise-record 60 wins and the Eastern Conference finals in 2015. He and the Hawks mutually agreed to part ways last month with two years remaining on his contract, allowing Budenholzer to pursue other opportunities.

The one with the Bucks may have been the best available, thanks to All-Star forward Giannis Antetokounmpo and a new arena next season.

"There's a massive amount of excitement around this team, because of the arena right there, because of this facility, because or our team," general manager Jon Horst said recently from the Bucks' training facility located across the street from the new arenah

# Stability gives Bears' defense sense of confidence

**LAKE FOREST, Ill.** (AP)—Cornerback Prince Amukamara appreciated the give and take with new Chicago Bears coach Matt Nagy at Tuesday's practice.

For the defense, as non-contact organized team activities began there was a lot of taking—and then they really gave it to Nagy and his fledgling offense.

"He's an offensive coach and last year coach (John) Fox, I couldn't really talk stuff to because he's a defensive coach," Amukamara said. "And it's like Nagy's offense, so if I get a pick or something ... I like to talk stuff to him."

The idea for the defense since offseason started was maintaining continuity with players and with coaches, even while the head coach had changed.

The addition of a few new pieces hasn't hurt, and now defensive players believe they have what's needed to improve on last year when they ranked 10th overall.

And Nagy is also a believer, even if he and offensive players are getting kidded at practice from Amukamara or defensive coordinator Vic Fangio.

"Right now there's a trust from one another because they've been together," Nagy said. "There's that experience factor, which is good. And they believe what they've got going on with Vic's system.

"When you have that, that's always good. So they just kind of want to grow from any mistakes they made last year, different areas of the game they can improve on, and that's what they're doing right now."

Linebacker Danny Trevathan pointed to the retention of Fangio as a key. Fangio resigned after his bid to become head coach was denied following Fox's firing.

"I was excited to have Vic back," Trevathan said. "I was kind of nervous about him leaving. I feel like I really wanted him back.

"He's one of our leaders and he's one of the guys we can go to for calls and advice on things."

Keeping the entire starting secondary together was also important. The Bears could have lost starting cornerback Kyle Fuller or his good friend Amukamara as free agents, but retained both.

Amukamara pointed to Seattle's ability to keep Richard Sherman, Earl Thomas and Kam Chancellor together as an example of what familiarity can do for a secondary.

"So when you have that continuity and the language stays the same, meaning the plays, it just becomes second nature," Amukamara said. "Guys play faster. Guys know what to expect.

"They know how teams are going to attack them and all that is a recipe for success."

Although intact, the Bears secondary has problems to correct. They've made a franchise record low of eight interceptions each of the last three seasons.

"I think personally on the back end it's our job to take the ball away," Amukamara said. "I think we had our opportunities last year and just needed to capitalize on them.

"And I would say that for the most part, just taking the ball away, I think we did a great job last year. I think we were (third) at forcing fumbles and recovering them. So I think this year, just catching them, intercepting it."

One change the defense did make is drafting inside linebacker Roquan Smith in the first round to challenge Trevathan and Nick Kwiatkoski for playing time.

Trevathan realizes Smith threatens his job security, but also thinks the extra speed and depth is something the defense lacked.

"We got the right guy to fit our defense," Trevathan said. "He's working his tail off and he fits in with our linebacker group."

Chicago Bears players run on the field during the NFL football team's practice Wednesday, May 16, 2018, in Lake Forest, Ill. AP

## Micro Games registration due on June 15

**COLONIA, Yap**—Online registration for all athletes, coaches, officials, and volunteers for the 2018 Micro Games will close on June 15.

Each country is responsible for registering their participants in advance to ensure their accreditation upon arrival at the Micro Games, which will take place from July 15 to 27.

The Federated States of Micronesia National Olympic Committee is assisting the Yap Organizing Committee with the registration through a financial aid of $5,000, which is used to pay the costs of the Australian-based website used for the registration.

To assist all of the FSM States with properly registering their teams, including athletes who reside outside each of the states, but will be competing on their respective state, the FSMNOC is also sending Lestly Ashby Mendiola to Kosrae, Chuuk and Yap to help take photos of the teams, coaches and officials and provide assistance with the online registration process.

Jim Tobin, FSMNOC secretary general, requested that the chef de missions in those states select someone with IT and photo skills to work with Mendiola during her stay. The June 15 deadline will be adhered to and the online registration will be closed on that date.

For more information, contact the 2018 Micro Games office at 2018microgames@gmail.com or at 691-350-2440. ***(PR)***

## TSUNAMI

*From Page 32*

bronze medals in their debut in the long-course meet.

Majority of the Tsunami Saipan swimmers will have eight events each in the tournament organized by the Guam Swimming Federation. They will race in the 1,500m freestyle, 200m backstroke, 100m butterfly, 50m breaststroke, and 100m freestyle events this afternoon.

For tomorrow's competition, the club will participate in the 800m freestyle, 50m butterfly, 100m backstroke, 200m breaststroke, 200m freestyle, and 200m medley relay in the morning session, while the afternoon race will feature the 400m freestyle, 50m backstroke, 200m butterfly, 100m breaststroke, 50m freestyle, 200m individual medley, and 200m freestyle relay events.

## AGAPE

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School and Saipan International School joined KES in the podium in the girls division.

In the boys U9, Tinian Elementary School placed first overall and was followed by William S. Reyes Elementary Scholl and KES. KES ruled the girls U9, while Agape and WSR came in at second and third, respectively.

In the U11 age group, KES again had a sweep with WSR and San Vicente Elementary School completing the Top 3 in the boys division. In the girls field, Koblerville placed ahead of Brilliant Star Schoool and San Vicente.

In the middle school division, Agape ruled the girls U13, while Tinian Junior and Senior High School was ranked second and Hopwood Middle School came in at third. In the boys U13, Hopwood took the No. 1 spot, while Agape and Tinian finished second and third, respectively.

Agape notched two more first place finishes when the Torchbearers prevailed in the girls and boys U15 divisions. Agape won over Tinian and Saipan International School in the boys division and versus Dandan Middle School and Hopwood in the girls.

Agape, with a lot of its students earning slots to the tournament proper, then upset Saipan Southern High School and Marianas High School in the boys U18. In the girls U18, MHS led the way, beating SIS, Agape, and Saipan Southern.

The rankings of each school were based on how their students finished in their respective events. Points were awarded to each student that qualified in the run races, discus, javelin, and softball throws, and long jump.

The organizing Northern Marianas Athletics is requesting the Top 3 schools in each age group to pick up their medals and trophies at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium from 8am to 5pm, Monday through Friday. NMA has also selected the top individual performers in each division and they will be recognized in a brief awards ceremony at McDonald's Middle Road on Monday at 3:30pm.

## OL'ACES

*From Page 32*

pulled off a 54-52 victory in overtime in the series opener last Monday.

The Ol'Aces took early control of the match just like what they did in Game 1 and this time remained in the driver's seat and even pulled away in the third quarter en route to an 11-point victory.

The John Santos-coached Ol'Aces turned a 20-13 halftime edge to a 38-19 advantage in the third quarter, as Eleina Santos and Alliyah Fernandez worked together to boost their team's chances to extend the series. Fernandez scored 6 straight points in the opening minutes of the pivotal period and added another bucket late in that canto, making up for her 2-point output in the entire second half and overtime in their Game 1 loss.

Eleina, who sizzled for 30 markers in the series opener, added 6 in the third canto, including the Ol'Aces' last 4 markers in that frame. She kept going in the fourth canto and again teamed up with Fernandez in delivering the killer blows for the Ol'Aces and foiling Fiesta Resort's bid for a sweep.

Fernandez finished with a game-high 17 points—7 more than her production in Game 1. Eleina added 15, while her sister Annalei chipped in 10, 6 came in the first canto where the burly center outgunned the entire Fiesta Resort crew.

Fiesta Resort, which played for the second straight game without main gunner Irish Pagarao, was held to 5 points in the opening quarter and never got its rhythm, failing to close out the short series early. No Fiesta Resort player scored in twin digits, as Nanaka Watanabe managed only 8 points. Madi Alegre and Mikki Kautz, who had crucial roles in their Game 1 win, was held to a free throw and 2 points, respectively.

Meanwhile, in the men's division playoffs, No. 6 seed Casino stunned No. 3 670 Akkeri, 76-63, to join pennant champions Ol'Aces in the semifinals.

Big man Paulo Sanguyo powered Casino to the victory after firing 26 points. Rico Ibag and Jake Sebastian backed him up after contributing 13 markers each. Fred Litulumar had 18 points on a losing effort for the 670 Akkeri.

The men's division playoffs will continue tonight with No. 2 670 Sonics taking on No. 7 Saints for the third semis berth, while on Monday, the No. 4 Genesis All-Stars will duel No. 5 Ol'Aces Extra with the winner completing the Final Four cast.

### First Game

**Casino 76** — Sanguyo 26, Ibag 13, Sebastian 16, Marinas 6, Atencio 6, Book 4, Pantaleon 4, Pastolero 3.

**670 Akkeri 63** — Litulumar 18, Pangelinan 11, S. Teregeyo 10, Lisua 7, Rios 5, Factor 5, D. Teregeyo 4, Arceo 2.

### Second Game

**Ol'Aces 50** — Fernandez 17, E. Santos 15, A. Santos 10, Louisa 4, Hapdei 2, Villagomez 2.

**Fiesta Resort 39** — Watanabe 8, Flores 7, Travilla 6, Pablo 4, Villagomez 4, Ito 3, Kautz 2, Camacho 2, Espinosa 2, Alegre 1.

**Scoring by quarters:** 12-5, 20-13, 38-19, 50-39.

# GCA reigns supreme anew in high school v-ball

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Grace Christian Academy's girls high school volleyball team picked up where it left off after topping the 2017-2018 All Island Championship last Monday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Just a few days after beating Saipan International School in the finals of the 2017-2018 Commonwealth Coalition of Private Schools Association Volleyball League, GCA produced the same results in their title showdown versus Saipan Southern High School. The Lady Eagles, who outlasted the Lady Geckos in the private school finals last Friday, 25-18, 16-25, 15-7, this time took the short route to the Promised Land after defeating the Lady Rays in just two sets, 25-19, 25-16.

"The back-to-back championships were blessing to us—a product of the hard work of the players and the untiring support of the school, its management and staff, and the players' parents," said coach Cesar Libut, who had a very fruitful debut season with GCA's girls high school team after they topped two competitions.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Grace Christian Academy's Jasmine Phan serves during an earlier title game against Saipan International School in the 2017-2018 Commonwealth Coalition of Private Schools Association Volleyball League at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. GCA also played against Saipan Southern High School in the finals of the 2017-2018 All Island Championship last Monday and won, 25-19, 25-16.

"It was my first time to handle the girls team and at it was a challenge for me and the players because in the first few games we struggled. However, through hard work and their dedication to practice, we are able to work well together, have chemistry, and improve our game," Libut added.

The Lady Eagles practiced six times a week this season with easy session lasting for two and a half hours.

Grace Christian Academy coach Cesar Libut gives instructions to his players. ROSELYN B. MONROYO

"I would like to thank the entire GCA community and the students' parents for their support during practices and the actual games. Winning this season would not be possible without their help," the GCA coach added.

With the Lady Eagles getting two titles this season, Libut knows they will be the target of the other teams in next school year's competition. However, he is confident they can keep up with their opponents next season, as GCA's roster will be intact when they return to action. The Lady Eagles will still have the core of the champion squad, as only one player on the team will graduate later this month.

"We also have some players moving up after playing in our champion middle school team, so we will definitely have a strong squad next season," Libut added.

## Former world champ holds long distance casting clinics

Former world champion and record holder Roger Mortimore of United Kingdom will arrive on Saipan today in time for a series of long distance casting clinics in the CNMI.

Mortimore, who also used to chair the United Kingdom Surfcasting Federation, will hold a free casting clinic on Saipan tomorrow in the waters off Surf Club in Chalan Kanoa. Casting is the act of throwing bait or a lure using a fishing line out over the water using a flexible fishing rod. Mortimore's session is divided into two parts with the 9am to 11am clinic for men and father and son participants. Women anglers or mother and daughter pairs will have their turn from 1pm to 3pm.

Then on Monday, Mortimore will head to Tinian for the 4:30pm to 6:30pm session at the Krammer Beach. The visitor's last stop will be Rota with the clinic to be held on Wednesday, May 23, at the Songsong Roundhuse from 4:30pm to 6:30pm.

Participants in the free clinics are requested to bring their own gear, which include a sinker tied to one line's end.

Gary Liddle of the Liddle-Mesa Friendship, Inc. is organizing the series of clinics and encourages interested anglers and others to capitalize on the opportunity to learn from a world-renowned casting expert.

According to Liddle, Mortimore won the European title three times and he also took three world championships while suiting up for the United Kingdom national team. The Brit has also held seminars and clinics around the world, having stops in Holland, France, Italy, South Africa, Malaysia, Australia, and New Zealand.

Mortimore is now based in the U.S. and has done similar casting clinics in New Jersey, Delaware, North Carolina, Florida, Texas, and Hawaii (Oahu).

"Roger is a world-record holder in long distance casting and has cast well over 800 feet. The current world record is around 930 feet. He likes to travel and fish and help people catch more fish than usual. He's aware that he has a talent to compete and the ability to pass on his knowledge and skills," Liddle said. ***(Roselyn B. Monroyo)***

## Four pairs earn finals berth in IT&E tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Four pairs moved into the title matches in their respective divisions in the IT&E Singles and Mixed Doubles Badminton Tournament 2018 that kicked off over the weekend at the TSL Sports Complex.

In the mixed CC category, the finals cast is set with the tandem of Vince Aquino and Emma Pinkerton battling the duo of Tim Choi and Zoey Zeng. Aquino and Pinkerton were undefeated in the double-elimination contest and took the first finals berth after downing Choi and Zeng, Puy Macario and Annette Ta, and Tommy Kim and Santos in the winner's bracket.

A 21-7, 21-12 victory over Kim and Santos moved Aquino and Pinkerton into the finals where the undefeated pair will have a twice-to-beat advantage against Choi and Zeng. The second finalists worked their way back into contention after topping the husband and wife tandem of Mark and Cathy Toves and Macario and Ta. Choi and Zeng then earned a second crack at Pinkerton and Aquino after winning the duel for the last finals berth versus Kim and Santos, 21-12, 21-18.

In the AB mixed, Ferdie Arago and Windy Fernandez secured the first finals berth after sweeping their matches in the winner's bracket. The duo notched a finals ticket after outclassing Loyda Ito and Nate Guerrero, 21-14, 21-10. Arago and Fernandez also prevailed against the pairs Ana Alvarez and Yun Zhang, Joseph Torres and Lucelle Lampera, and Patrick Fernandez and Jaja Bocago in earlier games.

Guerrero and Ito, on the other hand won over the teams of Alex Nguyen and Zang and Gary Bandoja, bu with the loss to Arago and Fernandez, they dropped to the loser's bracket and have to wait for their foes in fight for the last finals berth. Zhang and Alvarez will square off with Gary Bandoja and Hannah Choi this weekend with the winner facing Guerrero and Ito for the right to challenge Arago and Fernandez in the title match.

Windy Fernandez took her second finals slot, as she teamed up with Cris Hilario in marching into the mixed BB championship game. Hilario and Fernandez survived the winner's bracket and gained the first finals ticket in the group following a 21-15, 21-13 victory against Jorge Olanda and Rowena Sison in the semis.

Sison and Olanda still have a chance to make it to the finals if they beat Bandoja and Ta in the loser's bracket semis. The winner of the rubber will when have to down Fernandez and Hilario twice to top the division.

In other results last weekend, Elna Curate and Mae Ito bagged the first semis berth in the women's BB after defeating Cristy Villafor and Lani Santos, 21-10, 19-21, 21-16, and Loyda Ito and Merlie Tolentino, 25-23, 12-21, 21-18.

In the men's BB, Oh Im Bog and Hannai Choi also barged into the semis following their 21-14, 21-10 triumph over Bandoja and Olanda.

In the AB men's, Hilario and Guerrero are a win away from moving into the title match after outclassing Macoi Aguda and Vince Aquino, 22-20, 21-19, and Torres and Brian Valenton, 21-16, 21-17.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Participants in the IT&E Singles and Mixed Doubles Badminton Tournament 2018 pose for a photo after the opening of the competition last Saturday at the TSL Sports Complex.

Red Sox avoid sweep with victory over Athletics

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Rockets rebound, rout Warriors to even up series

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# Ol'Aces force rubber vs Fiesta

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Ol'Aces stayed in contention for the women's division title after defeating Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, 50-39, in Game 2 of their finals series in the 2018 MIBF Island-wide Basketball League last Wednesday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

With the best-of-three championship series tied, 1-1, the Ol'Aces and Fiesta Resort will play in a rubber match tonight at 6:30pm with the former having the slight psychological edge after earning a double-digit win in Game 2. Fiesta Resort

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The Ol'Aces' Eleina Santos, second left, is surrounded by Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan defenders during the third quarter of Game 2 of their title series in the women's division of the MIBF island-wide caging last Wednesday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
A student competes in the long jump event of the 2018 Public School System/McDonald's All Schools Track and Field Championships last weekend at the Oleai Sports Complex oval.

## Agape, Koblerville triumph in All Schools

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

As expected, Koblerville Elementary School smoked its competitors, while Agape Christian School also did very well in the overall rankings in the 2018 Public School System/McDonald's All Schools Track and Field Championships.

After compiling the results of the running, throwing, and jumping events in the meet that ran from May 9 to 12 at the Oleai Sports Complex oval, KES emerged on top of five divisions. The Umang had a sweep in the U8 age group, while Mt. Carmel School and Agape rounded out the Top 3 in the boys field and Tinian Elementary

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## Tsunami Saipan to compete in Guam meet

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Sixteen members of Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan are in Guam to race in the Guam Championships 2018 this weekend at the Hagatna Swimming Pool.

Selected to represent the club in the two-day tournament were Maria Batallones, Ashley and Aasish Dangol, Aika, Kouki, and Nanaka Watanabe, Juhn Tenorio, Isaiah Alekseno, Asaka and Shoko Litulumar, Hans Xu, an first-timers Fiona Regan, Shuman Barman, Kean Pajarillaga, Alex Kim, and Joseph Zhang.

Tsunami Saipan coach Hiro Kimura is expecting Guam meet returnees Batallones, the Dangol siblings, Tenorio, Aleksenko, and captain Aika Watanabe to win gold medals in their respective events, while Nanaka, Kouki, and Xu are pressed to bring home silvers. The Tsunami Saipan coach is also counting on Regan, Litulumar, Barman, Kim, and Zhang to at least earn

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan members pose for a photo during a break in their training session at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool early this week.